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Southeast Asia Report

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6 JUNE 1986

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HIGH COURT REDUCES DHARSONO'S SENTENCE BY 3 YEARS

BK130557 Hong Kong AFP in English 0516 GMT 13 May 86

[Text] Jakarta High Court has reduced by three years the sentence of leading dissident H.R. Dharsono, jailed in January for 10 years on subversion charges, a court spokesman said today.

The spokesman told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that Mr Dharsono, 60, a retired army general and former secretary general of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) would now serve seven years instead of 10 and that the decision was the result of the defendant's first appeal.

Mr Dharsono was sentenced on 8 January after being found guilty on two counts of undermining the state by taking part in the writing of a white paper and giving speeches that the prosecution said tended to incite to violence.

The spokesman said he did not know if Mr Dharsono, who maintains he is innocent, would appeal to a higher court, but a spokesman for his lawyers [words indistinct]. Dharsono would take his appeal higher.

The high court spokesman said the appeal had been heard 15 April, but that the sentence reduction had not yet been officially distributed in writing to the relevant government departments.

He said the delay was purely administrative.

Mr Dharsono's lawyers also said they had yet to receive official notification of the reduction, but that they had learned of it from impeccable sources on Monday.

Mr Dharsono is the highest ranking dissident to be tried in some 35 court cases connected with the Tanjungpriok riots in Jakarta's dock area in 1984.

The white paper he signed and helped draft called on the government to give a clearer explanation of the aftermath of the riot in which at least 30 people were killed and about 100 injured when troops tried to disperse the mob.

The five-month trial gained wide attention in Jakarta when leading dissidents belonging to the six year old "group of 50"--including a former mining minister and a former military governor--spoke in Mr Dharsono's defence.

The dissident maintained his innocence throughout, saying he was seeking to calm impassioned feelings after the riot, not to incite them as charged by the court.

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CSO: 4200/1021

MINISTER ADMITS SOME TRANSMIGRATION PROJECTS POORLY MANAGED

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 24 Apr 86 p A2

[Text]

Bandung, April 25 (ANTARA).-- Minister of Transmigration Hartono has admitted that there are still some transmigration projects which did not run well but added it did not mean all the projects were badly managed as reported by a magazine in Jakarta recently.

"The public must not be misinformed by the report. How come, this project also run very successfully", said the minister before a coordinating meeting on daily transmigration operations in West Java here Friday.

Accompanied by West Java Governor Yogie SM, Minister Hartono cited as example about the success. "Mrs Schoo, Chairperson of the IGCI has expressed her admiration about the development performance in transmigration resettlements in Irian Jaya when she made an inspection there", he said.

The minister also acknowledged that some of the transmigration areas are always struck by floods but he described these accidents as usual as having also occurred in such big cities as Jakarta, Bandung and Surabaya.

He noted that in the last third Five Year Plan, the transmigration projects have successfully resettled approximately 500,000 families. "Of these, only 200 families have quitted the resettlements. This number is very small compared with the whole figures", he said.

Hartono also denied that the transmigration projects is always pursuing the quantity target by disregarding the quality.

"Reporters can observe the projects at the transmigration resettlements directly and report the facts as input to the public", he said.

In 1986/1987, some 7,700 families from the West Java province are expected to be resettled to transmigration areas out of the nation-wide target of 150,000 families.

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CSO: 4200/1047

ed to US\$ 2,079 million as against the projected amount of US\$ 3,409 million.

But the deficit could be offset with the provision of capital which is estimated to reach a net amount of US\$ 2,364 million. Thus the balance of payments in 1985/1986 is estimated to show a surplus of US\$ 38 million, after being reduced with the estimated balance which has not been calculated amounting to US\$ 247 million.

State incomes and expenditures in the 1985/86 state budget are projected to be balanced at Rp 23,046 billion and the actual incomes and expenditures are estimated to reach Rp 22,825.4 billion and Rp 22,824.6 billion respectively. Thus the remainder of the budget in 1985/86 is estimated at Rp 0.8 billion.

The actual amount of domestic revenues in 1985/1986 is estimated at Rp 19,252.9 billion, around Rp 575 billion or 3.1 percent higher than the projected amount in the 1985/86 state budget. The routine expenditure is estimated at Rp 11,951.5 billion or Rp 447.5 billion lower than the target.

The government's savings in 1985/86 totalled Rp 7,301.4 billion or 16.3% bigger than Rp 6,278.9 billion projected previously. Foreign aid Indonesia received in 1985/86 estimatedly stood at Rp 3,572.5 billion or Rp 795.6 billion lower than the target of Rp 4,368.1 billion. The total is composed of program aid and project aid respectively estimated at Rp 69.2 billion and Rp 3,503.3 billion.

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CSO: 4200/1047

MINISTER REPORTS 1985/86 REVENUES TO PARLIAMENT

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 30 Apr 86 p 5

[Text]

Minister of Finance Drs. Radius Prawiro told Parliamentary Commission dealing with the state budget here recently that the collection of income tax from the people for the interest of deposits & savings in rupiah or foreign currencies was postponed temporarily.

The amount of funds collected from the community by banks had up to December 1985 reached Rp 220,174.4 billion. The total of funds absorbed from the community by banks in the first nine months of 1985/1986 showed an increase of Rp. 3,486.6 billion or 20.9% over that reached in the whole 1984/1985 fiscal year.

The amount of bank credits in the same period indicated an increase of Rp. 2,820 billion or around 14.6 percent.

Indonesia's export earnings are estimated at US\$ 18,108 million in 1985/86, or US\$ 3,219 million lower than the projection and US\$ 1,793 million lower than export value obtained in 1984/1985.

The value of Indonesia's oil/gas exports and non-oil/gas exports in 1985/86 is respectively estimated to be US\$ 2,075 million and US\$ 1,44 million lower than the target or US\$ 1,751 million and US\$ 42 million below that in the previous fiscal year.

Thanks to the effort to minimize import expenditures and spendings for services, the costs of imports and services in 1985/86 could be pressed down to US\$ 4,091 million and US\$ 458 million respectively below the projection, while the deficit of current account could be minimized.

TRADE WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA EXPECTED TO INCREASE

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 22 Apr 86 p A6

[Text]

Prague, April 22 (ANTARA).-- Trade relations between Indonesia and Czechoslovakia in the near future are expected to increase after the signing of the cooperation agreement between the two countries for the promotion of their respective products, the general chairman of KADIN Indonesian chamber of commerce and industry) concurrently leader of the Indonesian trade mission to East Europe, Sukandani S. Gitosardjono, told Czechoslovak and Indonesian newsmen after the signing of the cooperative agreement between KADIN Indonesia and the Czechoslovak chamber of commerce at Kaiserstein Palace here Monday.

Many Czechoslovak products which have disappeared since 1965 in the Indonesian market will soon be seen again through the Czechoslovak chamber of commerce's plan to hold an exhibition of Czech products in Jakarta next July, he said.

Sukandani admitted that trade between the two countries had so far remained small, which could be stepped up because many Indonesian commodities, such as coffee, tea, rubber, cacao beans and other plantation crops, had since long been known in Czechoslovakia.

The current Indonesian trade mission is the first one which conducts directly with Czechoslovak entrepreneurs for increasing the trade volume between the two countries. /talks

Asked what steps could be taken by KADIN Indonesia for the realization of the cooperation, Sukandani said, that government purchases above Rp 500 million should have the agreement of the control commission for the procurement of government goods, while government projects should be obtained through tender, which could be contested by all interested countries.

For private projects on the other hand the private entrepreneur is free to choose the machinery and equipment to his liking, he added.

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CSO: 4200/1047

JAPANESE SUPPLIERS INVOLVED IN COUNTER-PURCHASE CONTRACTS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 30 Apr 86 p 4

[Text]

Eighteen Japanese suppliers had been involved in counter purchase contracts worth US\$ 285,986,032.70 with the Indonesian Government till January 31, 1986.

The value of counter purchase contracts signed by the 18 Japanese suppliers till the end of January this year reached around 18.99% of the total value of counter purchase contracts involving suppliers in 23 countries, which till the end of January had amounted to US\$ 1,505,771,691.62.

The fulfilment of the obligation in the counter purchase contracts by the 18 Japanese companies had till the end of January 1986 reached US\$ 213,320,219.71 or about 19.2% of the fulfilment of the obligation by 21 suppliers countries (Yugoslavia and Mexico have not started importing Indonesian nonoil/gas commodities in accordance with the counter purchase contracts they have signed).

The imports of Indonesian non-oil/gas commodities by the 21 supplier countries under the counter purchase agreement they have signed with the Indonesian Government had up to the end of January 1986 been worth US\$ 1,111,039,058.22, including a total surplus of US\$ 54,639,183.87 in the purchase of Indonesian non-oil/gas commodities by several countries.

Thus the Japanese suppliers still have to buy Indonesian export commodities other than oil and natural gas worth US\$ 104,226,739.56 to fulfil their obligation in accordance with counter purchase contracts they have participated in.

PAPER REPORTS DETAILS OF OIL SALE TO PRC

BK191630 Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 14 May 86 pp 1, 12

[Text] Jakarta, 14 May--Director General of Oil and Gas Sudarno Martosewoyo says that the export of 1.5 million barrels of Indonesia's Minas oil to the PRC is a preliminary step toward the diversification and opening of new oil markets overseas. This was disclosed by Sudarno Martosewoyo to SINAR HARAPAN on 13 May when he commented on the sale of Minas-type oil after the opening of direct trade links between Indonesia and the PRC. He also disclosed that the sale is a flexible move to cope with declining oil prices in the current international market and fierce competition among world oil producers, adding that it is a cash sale based on international spot prices.

Replying to a question, Sudarno admitted that he was not sure if Minas oil was priced at \$10.4 per barrel, and added, "I will ask the director of Pertamina State Oil Company for clarification on this matter." He also said that he was not sure if this first transaction will be followed by any others. Asked if Indonesia can make a profit at such a price, the director general said in light of the current situation, we should consider the sale as a reasonable boost to the country's foreign exchange income.

Meanwhile, a SINAR HARAPAN source at Pertamina disclosed that the oil sale had been successfully concluded by Perta Oil, a Hong Kong-based corporation set up by Pertamina to market its products in the Pacific and on the U.S. West Coast.

The Minas oil sold to the PRC was produced at the Dumai oilfield and the first 300,000 barrels was shipped last March, with the remaining 1.2 million barrels to be shipped in June. The source said that the shipment might be carried out in four or five batches, depending on the size of the ship chartered by the PRC. The source added that the state oil company must have given a discount to the PRC with a view to maintaining a smooth bilateral trade link.

The PRC decided to purchase Indonesian oil because it is cheaper to do so than to depend on its own oil fields in the northern part of the country and then transport the oil to its factories in the south. It is noteworthy that as an oil-producing country, the PRC produces some 2.5 million barrels of oil daily and sells 200,000 barrels of it to Japan. Meanwhile, Mining and Energy Minister Subroto told newsmen after meeting with President Suharto on 13 May that the Minas oil has been sold at \$10.4 because nobody would buy it at a higher price; he stressed that "we have to be very competitive in our pricing policy." Asked on the significance of the oil sale, he said that PRC officials formally declared that it is cheaper to do so than transport their own oil from their northern oilfields, whereas for Indonesia, as long as the price is agreeable, it has no objection whatsoever because the deal falls within the framework of securing new overseas markets.

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CSO: 4213/146

EXPORT CERTIFICATE PAYMENTS CUT TO 85 PERCENT

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 22 Apr 86 p A1

[Text]

Jakarta, April 21 (ANTARA).-- Foreign exchange banks will continue to pay export certificates to applicant-exporters 85 percent of the value quoted on the verification report document (LKP) issued by SGS, surveyor of Indonesian export goods at the ports of destination from April 1 to June 30, 1986.

Minister of Finance Radius Prawiro in his Decree No.259, 1986, announced Monday did not mention the cause of the 85% cut.

Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh told reporters earlier that the government decision to lower the export certificate payments by 85 per cent was taken considering that Indonesian manufacturers have become increasingly more efficient.

The export certificate facilities are at first expected to be lifted as of March 31, 1986 as a result of the inclusion of Indonesia in GATT particularly in the Code of Subsidized and Countervailing Duties.

With the signing of this agreement, Indonesia must lift all its export incentives considered as subsidies by GATT. The export certificate facilities will be returned to the original "drawback" system.

In this connection, the government is now arranging other substitute facilities which are not contrary to GATT.

Minister of Trade Rachmat Saleh said the Indonesian government had requested the parties concerned particularly the United States for the postponement in the lifting of the export certificates. "The United States has agreed, so the enforcement will be postponed for three months starting April 1, 1986", he said.

In the framework of returning the export certificates to the drawback system, the finance ministry is now preparing to form a centre for the exemption and repayment of import duties.

President Soeharto in his decree no.12, 1986 had given approval.

Apart from that, the government will also establish an export supporting council designed for assisting exporters to step up both technical and management quality.

The council will be funded by the government as well as the World Bank. Its members will consist of representatives from the government and the private sector as well. Even Minister Rachmat Saleh once hinted that the council will be chaired by a representative from the private sector.

EXPORTS TO AUSTRALIA REPORTEDLY DECLINING

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 25 Apr 86 p 6

[Text]

The sales of Indonesian commodities in Australia remain small at present and the export of several commodities to that neighbouring country even decreased in percentage compared with the total export value.

Among 30 items only several commodities have well penetrated the Australian market. These commodities include coffee, tea, pepper, spices, handicraft products, textile/clothing, wooden furniture and electronic goods. Australia's imports of oil are worth over 50% of the total value of Indonesia's overall exports to that country every year.

The small role of Australia in Indonesia's foreign trade is because of the ties between Australia and other Commonwealth countries. The fact that Indonesia and Australia have almost the same natural resources is another factor causing the unsmooth growth of bilateral trade.

Australia is one of Commonwealth countries and preferences have been applied in trade among the Commonwealth countries, which consist of former British colonies. Therefore, higher tariffs have been imposed in trade with non-Commonwealth countries, including Indonesia.

From July 1986 Australia will even apply a new system in fixing import tariffs and this policy will narrow the opportunity for Indonesia to penetrate the Australian market. The position of Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea, for instance, will be stronger in selling garments to Australia.

Indonesia has sustained deficits in trade with Australia since 1975, except in 1981 and 1982, when Indonesia recorded a surplus of US\$ 85,220 and US\$ 309,575 respectively.

The deficit Indonesia sustained in trade with that neighbouring country was US\$ 138,048 in 1975, US\$ 158,367 in 1976, US\$ 125,415 in 1977, US\$ 111,039 in 1978, US\$ 32,450 in 1979, US\$ 38,460 in 1980, US\$ 193,830 in 1983, US\$ 96,844 in 1984 & 289,476 in the first 11 months of 1985.

Former Australian Ambassador to Indonesia Rawdon F. Dalrymple once said that Australian businessmen should be careful in choosing trade partners in Indonesia because the system used in Indonesia was different from that applied in Australia.

In this context, he mentioned the Indomilk case. An Australian company, Australian Dairy Corporation, which was involved in the joint venture in PT Indomilk, has withdrawn itself from the joint enterprise after selling its shares to the Indonesian side.

Australian Dairy Corporation is the second Australian company which has withdrawn itself from business activities in Indonesia. The first Australian company which has taken the same step is Worldmald International Ltd. of New South Wales.

In March this year, an Australian investor in PT James Hardie Indonesia sold its shares to PT Bakrie Bross., its Indonesian partner. Thus the Australian company has no longer participated in the joint enterprise.

In 1985 the Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM) revoked approval for investment which had been granted to eight Australian companies. The eight Australian investors planned to invest US\$ 7,477,000 in eight projects. But in the same year the board gave new permits to Australian companies for investments worth US\$ 35,894.

GRANTING OF PROTECTION TO DOMESTIC MANUFACTURERS TO CONTINUE

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 21 Apr 86 p A8

[Text]

Bandung, April 21 (ANTARA).-- The government will persist in providing domestic manufacturers with preferences to obtaining purchases by the government as well as protection from fierce competitions by imported counter-parts, Junior Minister for the Promotion of Domestic Products Kartasasmita has declared again.

Speaking at a seminar held by the University of Padjadjaran here Monday, Ginandjar Kartasasmita noted that both foreign and domestic investment particularly those in the areas that yield capital goods would continue to be granted a guarantee of healthy competition, such as the abolition of duty-exemption facilities for entries of capital goods which have already been produced at home.

"Moreover if the investors buy those home-made capital goods, they will enjoy "drawback" facilities, so the purchasing price will be cheaper than the imported ones", he said.

Ginandjar Kartasasmita, who also serves as chairman of the Capital Investment Coordinating Board (BKPM), hoped the protective measures would increase the confidence of investors in expanding capital in Indonesia.

"Apart from that, the government is now considering to take further steps to stimulate new investment, especially in the export-oriented areas", he said.

Despite many steps having been taken to remove the red tape such as the simplification of obtaining necessary licences, relaxation of investment requirements, re-arrangement of the scale priority lists and preferences for export-oriented investors, the junior minister considered the drive as still inadequate in making the investment climate attractive to prospective investors.

"In this context, the government will continue to seek other ways", he said.

The seminar was attended by some 100 participants from business companies and universities. Among the speakers were also Prof. Dr. M. Sadli, AR. Suhud and Prof. Dr. Panglaykin.

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CSO: 4200/1047

AUSTRALIA TO BUY PLYWOOD FROM MALUKU

Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 26 Apr 86 p A5

[Text]

Ambon, April 26 (ANTARA).- A Northern Australian mission led by Rick Setter has expressed willingness to purchase plywood from Maluku when held a series of meeting with provincial government and local entrepreneurs here starting from Thursday.

The North Australian mission has held meeting with Governor Hasan Slamet, followed by talks with forestry, trade officials and the Indonesian Wood panel Association of Maluku Chapter.

Provincial Administration Secretary J.M.E. Sookota said here Friday that the Northern Australia was showing much interest in purchasing various products of plywood and other exports commodities which were to date not yet much absorbed by Australia, especially. The Northern Territory.

The policy to buy products of Maluku, was taken by the Northern Territory state, considering Maluku is nearing to Darwin and the close relation between Australia and Indonesia, especially with the people in Maluku, Sookota said.

Rick Setter said that his government had also paid much attention in establishing trade relation and make endeavour to increase the flow of Australian tourists to Indonesia especially to Maluku.

It could be take place considering Maluku is rich in natural tourists objects in addition to its culture, history and marine tourists attraction which could have prospective markets in Australia and New Zealand, he said.

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CSO: 4200/1047

BUSINESS NEWS CRITICIZES BARRING OF AUSTRALIAN TOURISTS

Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 25 Apr 86 p 2

[Text]

On April 22, 78 tourists from Australia were not allowed to enter Ngurah Rai airport in Bali because they did not carry visas for entry into Indonesia. Twelve other Australian tourists were also denied entry into Jakarta for the same reason. In fact previously they were not required to possess visas for visits of less than three months. Some of them proceeded to Singapore, whether to continue their trips to other countries, or to handle their visas for Indonesia. Others were sent back to their places of origin in Australia with a refund of their fares.

On April 23, the Minister of Tourism, Post and Telecommunications explained to newsmen that Australian tourists are again allowed to enter Indonesia without visas, as is the case with those coming from 28 other countries already permitted to do so since 1983. Such permission and facilities are especially given because Indonesia wants to boost tourism as one of the country's foreign exchange earners with major potentials. It is unclear why the necessity for Australian tourists to have visas was imposed, which was again cancelled the following day. It was only stated that the requirement to possess visas was cancelled "after studying the regulations in force". The obligation to carry visas is only imposed on Australian journalists. This restriction evidently constitutes a retaliatory action against the publication of reports in the "Sydney Morning Herald" considered to discredit the Head of State.

The party directly harmed by this incident is certainly composed of hotels and lodging houses originally booked by the tourists, as well as souvenir

shops and restaurants particularly in Bali. Garuda also suffers losses because it had to refund the fares of those deciding to return to Australia rather than proceed their tours. The tourists can also feel that their pleasure was harmed, because their plan to spend the vacation in Bali had to be cancelled. It is not easy to change such a plan all at once, which usually has to be prepared for months in advance.

But the incident has done the greatest harm to Indonesia's image as a tourism country, while in fact the government has for the last several years been so painstakingly trying to attract tourists into Indonesia. The Minister of Tourism told the press that as a result of the visa facilities, 115,576 tourists came from Australia in 1985, up by 20% compared with the preceding year.

The incident in connection with visas for Australian tourists is very conspicuous, because in two successive days a policy could be reversed by 180 degrees. This happening shows how a decision on such an important problem with such far-reaching implications has apparently been made so recklessly. This error was immediately realised and corrected possibly because the measure invited a protest by Australia. Many actions in other fields have indeed also reflected inconsistencies with policies previously laid down, causing the policies to become vague. But such cases may not involve the protests of foreign missions. Criticisms and protests may have been launched by the public, but their weight is frequently considered too minor for a change. This is among the main reasons for the less appealing investment climate in Indonesia. This case does not bear a dramatic impact, but its negative impact is still real enough. The zig-zag policy renders would-be investors impossible to make accurate calculations on the prospect of their investments. Quite a number of them become discouraged as a consequence. Or, even if they finally decide to carry on their investments, their calculations are made with very big "safety margins". Hence the areas chosen are those sectors promising quick returns. At least, since investors do not intend to bind themselves for a long period, they are less inclined to make long-term initiatives such as the organisation of education, skill training

etc. Where possible such investors will try to obtain personnel ready for direct employment, if necessary by "hijacking" them from other companies. There is no need to explain that such practices create an unhealthy business and investment atmosphere.

The best way is that the government should consider any problem seriously before deciding anything on it. If such cases as the visa incident too frequently happen, there is reason to fear that all the energy, funds and thoughts devoted to the improvement of Indonesia's image in various fields will be to no avail.

/9274

CSO: 4200/1047

BRIEFS

DOMESTIC SHIP PRODUCTION DECLINES--The production of vessels by shipbuilding companies in Indonesia showed a decrease in 1985 compared with the previous year. According to data available in the Industry Department, the decrease is registered not only in the number, but also the value of new vessels built by local dockyards. The production of merchant ships in 1984 reached 20,947 Brt. worth Rp 37.705 billion, while the production of tug boats and such other types of vessels reached 56,544 HP worth US\$33.36 billion in the same year. Last year the production of merchant vessels totalled 18,220 Brt and the production of tug boats and such other types of vessels totalled 26,981 HP. The number of vessels repaired by local dockyards also decreased last year compared with the previous year. Merchant vessels repaired in the country dropped from 1,003,542 Brt in 1984 to 892,559 Brt last year, but tug boats and the kind repaired by local docks increased from 111,527 HP in 1984 to 125,805 HP last year. [Text] [Jakarta BUSINESS NEWS in English 25 Apr 86 p 5] /9274

NAU DROPS EAST TIMOR ISSUE--Jakarta, 20 Apr (ANTARA)--Indonesia has succeeded to avoid the inclusion of talks on the East Timor issue in the agenda of the Non-Aligned Ministerial Coordination Bureau session in New Delhi 16-19 April. This was disclosed by Foreign Minister Mochtar Kusumaatmadja Sunday on his arrival from New Delhi where he took part in the Non-Aligned Bureau session. The session was also a preparation for the holding of a Non-Aligned Movement Summit in Harare, Zimbabwe in August. Mochtar said three countries, Angola, Mozambique and Vanuatu had tried to put the East Timor issue in the agenda of the New Delhi meeting. But 36 other countries supported Indonesia in combating the three countries' move. The meeting of the Non-Aligned foreign ministers in Angola in 1985 also deleted the issue from its agenda. [Text] [Jakarta ANTARA NEWS BULLETIN in English 21 Apr 86 p A4] /9274

'INDISCRIMINATE ATTACKS' BY SOUTH AFRICA CONDEMNED--The Indonesian Government has strongly condemned the indiscriminate attacks perpetrated by the South African apartheid regime against its neighbors--Zimbabwe, Zambia, and Botswana--on 18 May. In a press release in Jakarta today, the Foreign Affairs Department termed this arrogant act that is characteristic of the apartheid racist policy as another violation by the Pretoria regime of the sovereignty and integrity of these countries and a blatant violation of the UN Charter and the norms governing international relations. In this connection, Indonesia believes that the time has come for the international community to take firmer measures against the South African regime.

Indonesia also expressed its deep sympathy with the victims of the attacks and full solidarity with and full support for the struggle of the African people, especially the front-line states, to wipe out the system of racial discrimination on African soil. [Text] [Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 20 May 86] /9604

AUSTRALIA VISIT CANCELED--The Governor of Indonesia's East Timor Province Mr Mario Carascalao, has canceled a visit to Australia's Northern Territory later this month. The visit was arranged earlier this year during the visit to East Timor by the Northern Territory's Chief Minister, Mr Ian Tuxworth. During his proposed visit, Mr Carascalao was to have discussed proposals for exchanged visits and a family reunion scheme to allow East Timorese people living in the Northern Territory to visit relatives in East Timor. The Indonesian Embassy in Canberra has confirmed that the trip has been canceled but says another tour may be arranged at a later date. The cancellation is the latest in a series of Indonesian actions following the publication of an article in the SYDNEY MORNING HERALD alleging corruption by members of President Suharto's family. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 12 May 86 BK] /12913

CSO: 4200/1021

PASASON COMMENTARIES CRITICIZE TOKYO SUMMIT MEETING

Summit Against Developing Countries

BK081115 Vientiane KPL in English 0925 GMT 8 May 86

[KPL headline: "New Kind of Weapon Against Developing Countries"]

[Text] Vientiane, 8 May (OANA-KPL)—Commenting on the result of the summit conference of seven top capitalist countries which ended in Tokyo yesterday, "PASASON" today says that although Washington failed in convincing its allies to directly take part in a further aggression against Libya, but somehow the U.S. Administration has managed to gain support by its allies. [sentence as received] Washington now has turned the summit meeting into a summit against developing countries and the National Liberation Movement.

The paper qualified the so-called "desire to ease the relation between East and West for Arms reduction" expressed by the seven top capitalist countries as an expression of hypocrisy. In fact, the paper stressed, it is Washington who is blocking the way leading to a complete disarmament and it is always the United States that sticks to its program of militarisation of outer space and of star wars.

"The attitude of seven top capitalist countries toward the problem of disarmament and the arms reduction [is] they are against any kind of long-term settlement of these vain issues," the paper noted. So far they never gave any constructive response to the Soviet peace initiatives aiming [at] suppressing the nuclear weapons and other kinds of mass destruction weapons by the end of this century.

Referring to the economic cooperation among these capitalists states, the paper observes that despite all the phrasology expressed at the summit, they have failed to solve the contradiction and serious crises which are threatening the capitalist system. It is out of the question, the paper added, that the seven protagonists of the capitalists summit to reach any concrete measures to curb these deep crises. [sentence as received]

Commenting on the relations between developing and capitalist countries, "PASASON" says that they have turned a deaf ear [on] the appeals of developing countries and are acting against the interests of these countries. This attitudes have faced more and more with strong protest from the developing countries. [sentence as received]

"The most dangerous threat against the developing countries, the paper said, is the arms race. Mankind [has] to curb the arms race and use the huge sum of money wasted in the arms race for development to improve the living standard of people and to safeguard the civilisation and progress," the paper concludes.

Tokyo Declaration 'Political Farce'

BK101046 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 10 May 86

[KPL headline: "Tokyo Declaration--Political Farce"]

[Text] Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)—"PASASON," in its commentary today, expressed the true nature of the "Tokyo Declaration" adopted by the seven major capitalist countries in Tokyo recently. The paper describes this document as a farce created by Washington administration to press its allies to pool together in an anti-Libyan front. This manoeuvre, the commentary stressed, is a grave violation of the self-determination and sovereignty of the Western countries.

Under the pretext of fighting against terrorism, Washington is attempting to use its Western allies as its tool to carry out its policy of state terrorism, war-mongering and neo-globalist policy against independent states, the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, the paper adds.

There is nothing new in this declaration, "PASASON" emphasises, and nobody could give any credit to this text which pretends to deal with the reduction of the arms race, the promotion of mutual understanding and respect, the solution of all problems by peaceful means and the promise to help developing countries to fight against famine because, in fact, the Tokyo summit did not give any positive response to the peace initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union and did not meet with any appeal of developing countries for the establishment of a new international economic order.

The paper notes: It is obvious that this "economic summit conference" of the seven major capitalist countries has been turned into a political and military forum, and what they have adopted at this summit will never be able to solve a trade war among the United States, Japan and West European countries. In contrast, it will make the contradiction among capitalist countries worse by each passing day.

/12232

CSO: 4200/1044

OFFICIALS, CEREMONIES MARK CSSR NATIONAL DAY

Leaders Greet CSSR Counterparts

BK091250 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 9 May 86

[Text] Vientiane, 9 May (KPL)—On the occasion of the 41st National Day of Czechoslovakia (9 May), Lao top ranking leaders yesterday cabled warm greetings to Gustav Husak, general secretary of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPC] CC, president of CSR; Lubomir Strougal, chairman of the Council of Ministers of CSR; and Alois Indra, chairman of the Federal National Assembly of CSR.

The greetings message was jointly signed by Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR; and Souphanouvong, president of the republic, the People's Supreme Assembly of the Lao PDR.

The Lao leaders highly evaluated the many-faceted achievements scored by the fraternal Czechoslovak people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the CPC, in their national safeguarding and socialist building tasks during the past 41 years.

"We are proud of and wholeheartedly salute the brilliant successes scored by the Czechoslovak people and consider them as our own," the message writes.

The Lao leaders also expressed satisfaction over the constant development of the combatant solidarity, fraternal friendship relations and all-round cooperation between the two parties, governments and peoples which is in accordance with the Laos-Czechoslovakia Friendship and Cooperation Treaty. They wished the Czechoslovak people new and still greater successes in the implementation of the resolution of the 17th Party Congress and the 8th 5-Year State Plan.

Phoun Sipaseut, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister for foreign affairs, also sent a similar message to the Czechoslovak foreign minister, Bouhuslav Chnoupek.

Vientiane Ceremonies

BK131523 Vientiane KPL in English 0906 GMT 10 May 86 BK]

[Text] Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)—On the occasion of the 41st National Day of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, a get-together was organized here yesterday

in honour of the Czechoslovak experts working in the Lao PDR. Khamphet Phengmuang, vice-president of the Laos-Czechoslovakia Cooperation Commission, addressed the gathering. He highlighted the relations of fraternal friendship, and the close cooperation between the two countries. A film night was also held here on 8 May by the Laos-Czechoslovak Friendship Association for the same purpose. Among those present on the occasion were Sali Vongkhamsao, secretary of the party CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee, along with other officials.

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CSO: 4200/1044

BRIEFS

HOUSING MINUTE WITH USSR—Vientiane, 8 May (OANA-KPL)—A minute on the cooperation in the field of house-engineering between the Lao PDR and the Soviet Union was signed here on 6 May following the fourth session [of] the Lao-Soviet Intergovernmental Commissions for House Engineering. According to the minute, the two sides will within the period of 1986-90 cooperate in the management of the building work and setting up of projects. They also agreed on the training of engineers and technicians. The Soviet side is to help Lao builders to put into effect all the construction sites. The Lao-Soviet Commission also evaluated the effectiveness of the cooperation between the two countries from 1981 to 1985. Both sides are unanimous that many projects have been achieved and put into effect thanks to the Lao-Soviet cooperation and particularly the concrete factory and wood processing factory. The document was signed by Seun Phetsanghan, deputy-minister of construction of the Lao PDR and Losev, first deputy minister of construction of the Soviet Union, who is touring here. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0918 GMT 8 May 86 BK] /12232

GDR'S HONECKER SENDS THANKS—Vientiane, 9 May (KPL)—Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Lao PDR, has received a telegramme of thanks from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany CC and chairman of the State Council of the GDR. The telegramme says: "I would like to convey sincere thanks to you and through you to the LPRP CC for having sent to me a telegramme of greetings following my reelection as general secretary of the SED CC. I am firmly convinced of the further strengthening of the fraternal relations between our two parties which are struggling for common goals such as: socialism, peace, and prosperity for the peoples of the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0909 GMT 9 May 86 BK] /12232

PRK COMMUNICATIONS DELEGATION—Vientiane, 9 May (KPL)—The visiting Kampuchean delegation of the Ministry of the Communication, Transport and Post led by its Minister Tie Banh, who is also alternate member of the People's Revolutionary Party [KPRP] CC, left the southern Champassak Province of Laos on 6 May. During its stay in the Lao PDR, the delegation had discussed with the Lao communication officials and signed in Vientiane a number of cooperation documents. It also paid a courtesy visit to the Lao leaders and toured historical sites in Vientiane and Champassak Province. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 9 May 86 BK] /12232

BURMESE ENVOY VISITS--Vientiane, 10 May (KPL)--Sali Vongkhamsao, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Committee, received Win Aung, Charge d'affairs AI of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma to Laos, who was recently accredited to the Lao PDR. During the meeting, the two men exchanged views on bilateral relations between Laos and Burma. Sali Vongkhamsao wished Win Aung new success in the further more strengthening the relations between Laos and Burma while in mission to Laos. On this occasion, Win Aung congratulated the Lao Government and people for their great achievement. He also pledged to do his utmost to contribute to the strengthening of the relations between the two countries. [Text] [Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 10 May 86 BK] /12232

CSO: 4200/1044

EDITORIALS QUESTION PBS SINCERITY, DEPLORE ATTITUDE

Sincerity Questioned

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 4 Apr 86 p 10

[Text] The PBS's [Sabah United Party] vacillation regarding the reconciliation formula presented by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad raises more questions about the Sabah political crisis and the PBS's sincerity about participating in that reconciliation plan. After enthusiastically accepting the settlement formula proposed by the prime minister, Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan, the PBS president, suddenly responded with a counterproposal. Some reports say that Datuk Pairin changed his mind because he was pressured by members of the PBS Supreme Council. If this is true, it means that Datuk Pairin's leadership was readily subverted by his subordinates. This is not the mark of a leader because a leader should lead his followers and not permit himself to be led by others. Although the voice of the majority must be respected, the ability of a leader to convince his followers becomes the yardstick by which one can measure his maturity, decisiveness, and power.

Nevertheless, we feel that this is not the case with respect to Datuk Pairin. Rather, we are convinced of his influence in the PBS and of his cleverness in playing politics. So, if the PBS opposed the prime minister's formula, we are certain that Datuk Pairin was partly responsible for kindling this opposition. This really worries us because in discussions held with various parties in Kuala Lumpur, Datuk Pairin seemed to accept the formula. However, when he returned to Sabah, he had different ideas. Such vacillation really is not the manifestation of authority of a leader such as Datuk Pairin, who holds an important position.

Although the Sabah people will cast their votes on 5 and 6 May, and some feel the political cooperation formula is dead, Datuk Pairin and his colleagues must still ask themselves whether they have been sincere and displayed great authority in negotiating the settlement of the Sabah problem with federal leaders especially the prime minister. It is most unwise and improper to play games with the prime minister or anyone else who sincerely wants to help Sabah resolve its problem.

What really surprised us was that Datuk Pairin did not overlook saying how important it was to speed up the Sabah political settlement in the interest of the people of that state. He also welcomed the prime minister's presentation

of the settlement formula and promised that there would be a coalition government in Sabah. Nevertheless, he said one thing and did another. He made the counterproposal as though he wanted to close the door on negotiation, and even if his counterproposal is accepted by other parties, other things will have to be considered subsequently.

From the time he won the election in April of last year to the present time, Datuk Pairin often said that unity was the primary goal of his political struggle. He admitted that as a state comprised of numerous ethnic groups, various ethnic parties had to be involved in Sabah politics. He claimed that the PBS was a party made up of various ethnic groups, but truthfully, other ethnic elements that belong to the PBS are nothing more than show pieces. They have been taken here and there, and their pictures have been displayed in the newspapers and on television screens, but their mouths have been closed tight. The steps taken by several Chinese leaders in that state to form a Sabah Chinese Party proves that the outcry about unity is merely hot air. A strategy which stresses political interests such as is being played out by the PBS is very much cause for concern.

The PBS vacillation also makes us ask whether there are parties outside Sabah, including on the peninsula, that are now trying to champion certain goals by offering advice that might have deceived the PBS leaders to the point where they, thereupon, rejected the reconciliation formula which was said to benefit the PBS more than other parties in Sabah. Our experience does not allow us to deny any longer that this is a possibility. If our concern is real, the PBS must determine who they are and what their purpose is in doing this. Sabah leaders, principally those from the PBS, detest outside interference. This is also the reason why the central government avoided interfering in this affair until the situation became so tense. The PBS leaders must be wise in discerning who really wants to help them make peace in Sabah and who wants to fish in muddy waters.

Attitude Deplored

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 5 Apr 86 p 8

[Text] The election commission announced yesterday that the Sabah State election would be held on 5 and 6 May. The notification by Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan, president of the Sabah United Party, makes it very clear that there will be no cooperation between ethnic parties if the PBS intends to run its candidates in the 48 regions in which seats are being contested.

The latest step taken by the PBS leadership created concern and raised questions at the time settlement negotiations were being held and agreement reached on creating a party mix based on a "formula" proposed by Kuala Lumpur to resolve the crisis endured by that state's government.

Many people were bewildered when Datuk Pairin suddenly became too ill to attend subsequent discussions of the Sabah crisis formula and sent representatives to Kuala Lumpur. They also failed to meet with the prime minister. This did not escape the public's notice. In general, they felt that such a step taken by the PBS leader was a trick to avoid having to agree to the formula to solve the Sabah crisis.

The PBS's action is a direct display of arrogance or an attempt to exhibit its power. The PBS refuses as well to acknowledge the importance of cooperation included in the reconciliation formula.

The public, of course, was more disillusioned when, after the prime minister expressed his readiness to demean himself and visit Sabah, and with great sincerity proposed the reconciliation formula, the PBS leaders' response indicated that they did not appreciate the good will and aims of the prime minister.

And when Datuk Pairin presented a counterformula, the public understood that the PBS leaders regarded power more important than the security and welfare of the Sabah people. The choice made by the PBS after the initial pledge given by Datuk Pairin on the reconciliation formula has raised questions about how far that party's leaders are really committed to the welfare and security of the people of Sabah.

This attitude has made the Sabah people insecure, and if their confidence and the stability of that state cannot be restored by the means desired by the PBS, the PBS must be ready to take full responsibility.

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CSO: 4213/141

ANWAR CRITICIZES PAS-CHINESE COOPERATION

Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 14 Apr 86 pp 1, 6

[Article: "PAS-Chinese Cooperation Is "Shackling" by Extremists--Anwar"]

[Text] Ipoh, 13 April--Mr Anwar Ibrahim, chairman of the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] Youth Movement, described the dialogue and cooperation agreed upon between the PAS [Pan-Malayan Islamic Party] and Chinese organizations as the "shackling" of these organizations by the extremist and radical elements in the organizations involved.

He said it was incredible that the two extremist elements with different political and struggle views could fight for the same things.

The cooperation agreement and dialogue were nothing but a political stratagem to shake up the leadership of this nation's leaders and no more than that, Anwar Ibrahim said, when opening the meeting of UMNO representatives of the Pasir Pinji Division held here today.

He cited as an example the radical element of the Chinese organization, which so clearly opposes a number of the government's policies and plans such as the National Cultural Policy and ethnic language, education and similar issues, and which now so readily "tenders itself" to work with the PAS whose ideology and political struggle differs from its own.

"We are not against them if they are really sincere about wanting cooperation and unity because we are for unity, but are the two extremist elements of the two different organizations really sincere in this struggle?" he asked. The Chinese extremist group has been known to the public as agitators who stir up the Chinese on various ethnic issues, and their struggle to date has also been nothing but a struggle solely for the Chinese," he added.

Mr Anwar, who also is minister of agriculture, does not believe this Chinese extremist group can easily support the PAS ideals and struggle.

"If they think the agreement is a means of pressuring the government leadership, they are wrong, because the merging of the two extremist elements will only in-

crease tension and polarization between the ethnic groups if the parties involved later reveal their struggle aims," he said.

He also criticized the PAS leaders for not wanting to admit that they were pressuring the government because "the Chinese who cooperate with them are not so dumb that they are going to support the PAS struggle."

The government, Mr Anwar explained, would not support or share the emotions of a particular ethnic group in administering the state because all people of this country are guaranteed their rights as stated in the Constitution.

Politicians who do not care about the unity of ethnic groups, their feelings or that they can easily become irrational about certain issues will only destroy the unity between ethnic groups, he added.

He also criticized non-Malay politicians who liked to play games with ethnic issues, depicting the government as one that oppresses non-Malays and discriminates against them.

"The UMNO struggle has a proven record of sincerity to date, and this must be defended because the UMNO is a responsible party that does not want to be fired up by bigoted ethnic sentiments. The UMNO also is aware that if it played the same politics, the country would be in disarray," he added.

Any question to be raised, he said, should be funneled through specific, approved channels and not by revealing certain information that would create distrust between ethnic groups.

Therefore, the UMNO Youth Movement does not want to respond to these issues if they are raised outside the organization. This does not mean that the UMNO Youth Movement should be afraid or should compromise with these parties. It believes that these matters can be submitted through the proper channels, he said.—BERNAMA

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CSO: 4213/141

GOVERNMENT UNABLE TO GRANT PAY RAISE

Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 3 Apr 86 p 1

[Article by Manja Ismail: "Government Unable To Raise Wages"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wednesday [2 April]—Government expenditures for civil servants salaries, including pensions and allowances, will rise by some \$3.2 billion [Malaysian dollars] a year if the demands of the Civil Servant Joint Council and the Public Service Trade Union Congress (CUEPACS), presented in 1984, are met.

Continuing, Tan Sri Rozhan Kuntom, Public Service Office chief director, said the government's economic and financial position now makes it impossible for it to meet those demands.

At the same time, the falling prices for primary products has caused national income to drop between \$6 to \$8 billion this year.

The situation will worsen if the price drop continues.

Tan Sri Rozhan recommended that public service labor unions assist the government in finding a way to stabilize the prices of goods at a level that would make them more competitive.

Weakening Economy

He said no one can deny that the country's economy at present is weakening as proved by the drop in the prices of primary products, especially petroleum.

Nevertheless, Tan Sri Rozhan said, the government has never abandoned the need to adjust the wages of its civil servants since the CUEPACS submitted its memorandum.

"Rather, the government essentially agrees that it is necessary to review pay raises for its civil servants, and a census has already been taken for this purpose.

"Last year we gave serious thought to continuing our efforts to raise their wages by studying a variety of information on this matter," he explained.

Nevertheless, he said, the desire to raise wages had to be set aside as the economy weakened.

Tan Sri Rozhan, who also is chairman of the Joint Wage Committee, provided this information during a panel discussion with newsmen and senior government officials held here today.

Those participating in the discussion were Datuk Ramon Navaratnam, deputy chief secretary of the Ministry of Finance, and representatives of the Ministry of Labor and the Malaysian National Bank.

In that meeting, the newsmen asked the panel to provide precise information on the government's financial position and the impact of implementing the wage demands on the country and the people.

Meanwhile, Datuk Navaratnam said the government had taken a number of steps because it, of course, wanted to review civil servants wages.

"Nevertheless, we cannot make an accurate forecast of the future prospects for the national economy. No government can do this now nor can it decide on the wage rates of its civil servants prior to the implementation phase.

"This is the usual state of affairs because of the government's dependence on the world economic climate, the more so if the international economic situation changes suddenly and even more so if the economic situation is uncertain," he remarked.

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CSO: 4213/141

RAZALEIGH: FOREIGN INVESTMENT WILL NOT HURT NEP

Kuala Lumpur PERITA HARIAN in Malay 2 Apr 86 p 19

[Article: "Foreign Investment Will Not Hurt the NEP, Razaleigh Says"]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tuesday [1 April]--Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, minister of trade and industry, said high foreign investment would not interfere with the achievement of the New Economic Plan (NEP) targets.

According to Tengku Razaleigh, there is no reason why attempts to encourage foreign investment should have an impact on the current reorganization of society.

"Foreign investment is needed to meet the private investment growth target, to create job opportunities, to improve technical skills, and for the management and organization of international marketing," he said.

He provided this information during a luncheon meeting arranged by the Institute of International Studies and Strategy (ISIS) held here today.

Tengku Razaleigh said private investment would make for convincing economic growth so that an overall growth rate of 6.4 percent could be achieved by the manufacturing sector during the Fifth Malaysian Plan (RML).

The RML, he said, takes foreign investment into serious account, and it is forecast that by 1990 the share of capital held by foreign interests will total \$19.6 billion [Malaysian dollars] compared to \$11.2 billion in 1985.

Attract More Foreign Investment

Tengku Razaleigh said Malaysia must attract many more foreign investors particularly in the export-oriented industrial sector if the economic targets of the RML are to be achieved.

In this connection, the government forecasts that corporate investment, including loans and capital shares, will be no less than \$13.1 billion in the coming 5 years.

Tengku Razaleigh admitted that because of the increasingly complicated economic situation forecast, determined efforts must be made to attract foreign investors to this country to obtain this much foreign capital.

"There is no denying that this must be done because private investment growth has not been encouraging and has been of concern for the past 5 years," he said.

Several growth strategies must be carried out, he said. They include stressing domestic activities, reducing the debt service ratio, creating job opportunities, advancing the agricultural sector, and increasing the mission of the private sector.

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CS0: 4213/141

BRIEFS

VELLU CRITICIZES MAJOR PARTIES--Petaling Jaya, 8 April--Datuk S. Samy Vellu, MIC [Malayan Indian Congress] president, today asked the "major parties" in the National Front (BN) to restrict themselves to their usual number of seats in the coming general election and not "interfere" in regions where the seats are held by other component parties. He said the major parties must respect the membership of other parties in the BN and not demand their colleagues' seats. Datuk Samy Vellu informed newsmen of his sentiments after opening the seminar on "New Teaching Techniques for Tamil Schools" being held here. Nevertheless, he did not mention the parties involved but said he would raise this matter during the BN Supreme Council meeting tomorrow. According to Datuk Vellu, the MIC "is prepared to surrender" all of its seats in Parliament and in the state if these parties continue to demand them. He warned that the major parties' greed could result in the break-up of the BN. Datuk Samy Vellu, who also is minister of public works, said he will recommend that all matters pertaining to the division of seats be discussed in a BN forum and not during an open BN meeting. Regarding the MIC's preparations for the general election, he said preparations had been made even though the election was not yet due. He said the party had found new regions in which it would run candidates as well as ways it could obtain support from the Indian community. A special activity room had also been established in the party's home office in Kuala Lumpur, he said.--BERNAMA [Text] [Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 9 Apr 86 pp 1, 6] 6804

PHILIPPINES, ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS MEETING--Jakarta, 15 April--Datuk James Ongkili, a minister posted to the prime minister's office, said a Philippine government delegation was holding discussions with the illegal Philippine immigrants in Sabah to persuade them to go home. Nevertheless, he said, the discussions were being held solely between the Philippine government delegation and the illegal immigrants and had no direct connection with the Malaysian or Sabah State governments. He gave this information after holding a meeting with 30 Malaysian students at the hotel in which they were staying here this evening. Datuk James is here in Jakarta after attending the ASEAN [Association of Southeast Asian Nations] law ministerial meeting held in Bali. Yesterday evening he held a meeting with Subroto, Indonesia's petroleum minister, and senior officials of Pertamina [National Oil and Natural Gas Company], and today he is visiting the Science and Technology Research Center (PUSPITEK) in Serpong near here. Datuk Ongkili said the government, at this stage, has no

details on the meeting between the representatives of the Philippine government and the illegal Philippine immigrants in Sabah. Datuk James was reluctant to provide any further information on the subject, but he predicted that the number of illegal Philippine immigrants, 150,000 now in Sabah, would be reduced if that meeting achieved its purpose. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur UTUSAN MALAYSIA in Malay 16 Apr 86 p 4] 6804

PHILIPPINE CLAIM UNFOUNDED--Kota Kinabalu, Wednesday [16 April]--Today the DAP [Democratic Action Party] supported the request of Tengku Abdul Rahman Putra al-Haj, former prime minister, that the Philippine government relinquish its claim to Sabah. Mr Lim Kit Siang, DAP secretary general, said this claim was an obstacle to relations between the Malaysian and Philippine governments, and the time had now come to set aside that 20-year old claim. In his recent statement, Tengku Abdul Rahman said that Sabah was part of Malaysia and that the Philippine government should not raise this matter again in any form whatsoever. According to Tengku Abdul Rahman, the Philippine government must desist from "claiming" Sabah because it has no strong basis for its claim. He added that, in the past, Sabah was part of the Islamic empire. Mr Lim asked Corazon Aquino, the Philippine president, and Salvador Laurel, its vice president, to reconsider that claim and take the right step in the interest of diplomatic relations between the two countries. He also asked the Philippine and Malaysian governments to hold an open meeting on the problem of Philippine refugees in this state. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 17 Apr 86 p 4] 6804

CSO: 4213/141

REPORTAGE ON PRE-ELECTION ALLIANCES, ANNOUNCEMENTS, STRATEGIES

Ukrit: House To Pick Prime Minister

BK120055 Bangkok THE NATION in English 12 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Excerpt] President of Parliament Dr Ukrit Mongkhonnawin said last night that he will exercise "absolute democracy" in having the House decide on the nomination of the next prime minister.

Speaking during the "Talks on the Country's Problems" on TV Channels 5 and 7, Ukrit said the majority of the MPs will decide who the next prime minister will be.

Ukrit said under the Constitution, the nominees for the premiership will come from the political parties. He will then sound out the opinions of the majority of the MPs on the most suitable nominee, he said.

"As the president of Parliament, I'll exercise absolute democracy by considering the voice of the majority of the MPs," he said.

Ukrit also said that the parties which form the next government should have an absolute majority to ensure political stability.

Ministry Sets Election Centers

BK150706 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 May 86 p 3

[Text] The Interior Ministry will set up two centers to ensure smooth proceedings in the July 27 general elections, Gen Sitthi Chirarot said.

Under an order issued yesterday, an election centre will be set up shortly before election day at the Interior Ministry. General Sitthi will be the director of the centre while his deputies will be assistant directors.

The order appointed permanent secretary Phisan Munlasatsathorn as assistant director of the Centre and all deputy permanent secretaries, inspectors-general and directors-general as members of the election centre committee.

Also to be attached to the centre are commissioners of the Metropolitan Police, four provincial police bureaus and border Patrol Police.

Local Administration Department [LAD] director-general Chalong Ka-layanamit will be the centre's secretary.

The other centre to be set up today at the LAD is the election preparation centre. The LAD director-general will be the director and his deputies will be deputy directors of the centre which will have the chief of the election division as its secretary.

Both centres will include units for public relations, research, coordination and other necessary work.

Meanwhile, the Police Department set up a security and information coordination centre to supervise peace-keeping operations during the period leading up to July 27.

The centre was ordered established yesterday after a meeting of officers to map out strategies to ensure peace and order for the election.

General Sitthi is to call a meeting among provincial governors on May 29 and 30 to discuss election preparations.

Vice Premiers Say No Coup

BK160214 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 May 86 p 3

[Text] There will be no coup and the general elections will proceed as planned, deputy prime ministers Phichai Rattakun and Prachuap Suntharangkun said yesterday.

Pol Gen Prachuap said he had heard rumours which went as far as setting the date for a coup attempt. But certain groups had no reason to try to overthrow the government, he said.

The dissolution of Parliament and manoeuvring by parties in the lead-up to the election were just a part of democracy. It would be senseless, he said, for any person to upset this democratic process.

Mr Phichai said Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek's election guidelines to military commanders should preclude a coup.

"Who will dare stage a coup after the Supreme Commander has issued his policy to army men about the election and had stated clearly that he would follow the democratic process?", Mr Phichai said.

Mr Phichai said the Democrat Party would launch its campaign at Sanam Luang on June 12 before expanding nationwide.

The party leader said he would increase the next fiscal budget to stimulate the economy if his party came to power.

Enlarged expenditure, particularly in the development sector, would spur employment, Mr Phichai said.

Coup Defendant Kriangsak To Run

BK161031 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 16 May 86 p 32

[Excerpts] Former Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan this morning confirmed that he would run for the parliamentary seat in Roi Et in the July 27 general election even though he is a defendant in the September 9 coup trial.

Gen Kriangsak said he would submit his candidature on the first day of registration on June 9 as he is due to appear in court again on June 18.

The leader of the National Democracy Party made the disclosure before attending a hearing at the Criminal Court on the coup attempt last year. He said he was entitled to run in the election race even though he was a defendant.

Observers noted that he would only be disqualified from running the race if the court had handed down a sentence against him.

Meanwhile, United Democratic Party (UDP) leader Buntheng Thongsawat said yesterday that as many as 84 former MPs had signed up to join his party and he expected the number to increase to 100.

In another development, former SAP [Social Action Party] leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot yesterday said the present political situation was rather confused but everything was taking place through democratic channels.

Asked to comment on the recent military shows of support for Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon, M.R. Khukrit said they indicated that Gen Prem still enjoyed support.

The officers concerned officers might have wanted to give him moral support after they saw that he was under some tension.

The former prime minister declined to comment whether Gen Prem should run in the election, saying that it was the general's personal affair and that whoever wished to run could do so.

He said he did not see how the present military activity would affect the election.

Chat Thai Party Manager Views Tasks

BK190605 Bangkok THE NATION in English 10 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] Former movie tycoon So Thanawisut, whose appointment as the office manager of Chat Thai Party has surprised many people, declared yesterday that his first task is to eliminate all the factionalism in the party.

So said his main responsibility as the office manager is to look after the party members and "to make sure they behave well within the party's regulations."

Speaking to THE NATION in an interview at his residence in Bangkok, So said he will not run in the general election but may do so in one of the by-elections.

Known for his outspokenness and "straightforward" ways of doing things, So said he had been approached by Chat Thai leader Maj Gen Praman Adireksan to enter politics. He said he had known Praman's family for over 10 years.

So, who owns a string of businesses, said that from now on there will be no more internal conflicts in Chat Thai Party.

"I'm 100 per cent certain that I will be able to deal with the problem of factionalism in the party. I will be neutral and mediate all conflicts with the man-to-man approach," he said.

So, 48, was a well-known movie producer a few years back. But he had been keeping a rather low profile [word indistinct] he was acquitted of murder charges in 1984. He was then accused of masterminding the murder of three of his former colleagues.

He said that if the Chat Thai Party won the majority of parliamentary seats, Maj Gen Praman should be made prime minister.

So also condemned "political turncoats" who always switched parties because of money. He said all political parties should shun this kind of politicians.

So said he will begin his work as the office manager at the party's headquarters at Saphan Khao today.

The Chat Thai Party has been hit by a series of conflicts and defections by several of its leading members. And the appointment of So as the office manager came as a surprise to many people.

SAP Claims Many New Members

BK140955 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 14 May 86 p 3

[Reportage: "The Saha Prachathipatai Party"]

[Text] Breakaway politicians from the Social Action Party, the Chat Thai Party, and the National Democracy Party have successfully found a party under whose banner they can run in the upcoming election.

On 12 May Decha Yotmongkhon, deputy leader of the Siam Prachathipatai [siam democracy] Party, together with Prem Malakun na Ayutthaya and Phinit Chantharasurin submitted a request to the Interior Ministry to change their party's name to the "Saha Prachathipatai [united democracy] Party," which sounds very close to that of the Saha Prachathai Party of Field Marshal Thanom Kittikhachon, father of Colonel Narong Kittikhachon.

Prem Malakun na Ayutthaya disclosed that members of the Saha Prachathipatai Party come from the following political groups:

Forty one from Buntheng Thongsawat's group, 25 from the Siam Prachathipatai party, 17 from Thawit Klinprathum's group, 15 from Colonel Narong Kittikhachon's group, 9 from the National Democracy Party, and 6 from Prathuang Khampralop's group.

The figures represent only those who formerly served as members of parliament, and total 113.

Prem Malakun na Ayutthaya also revealed that the party has attracted 10-15 additional former MP's from other parties. In other words, the Saha Prachathipatai Party will have from 123-128 former members of the House of Representatives.

The party has Buntheng Thongsawat as its leader with 15 to 20 deputy leaders including Thawit Klinprathum, Police Lieutenant Colonel Bunloet Loetpricha, and Colonel Narong Kittikhachon. Tamchai Khamphato is the party's secretary general, and Colonel Phon Roengprasoetwit is chairman of the party's advisory board.

It is not bad at all for the party to have as many as 123-128 former members of the House of Representatives as its members. However, there might be some breakaways within Buntheng Thongsawat's group. Charat Phuachuai disclosed that 30 out of 50 dissidents from the Social Action Party would join the Kit Prachakhom Party. There might be only 20 of them who would follow Buntheng Thongsawat to the new party.

It is not known whether the Saha Prachathipatai really has that many former members of the House to join it, for the numbers might be exaggerated. Even God would have a headache trying to figure out the exact number of former members of the House who have joined this party.

SAP Dissidents Hold Meeting

BK150958 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 15 May 86 p 3

[Text] Twenty-eight former MPs who had broken away from the Social Action Party attended a meeting at the Miramar Hotel this morning to discuss their next political move as other political parties plan meetings today to prepare for the July 27 general election.

The breakaway group's meeting was chaired by Buntheng Thongsawat and Koson Krairoek.

Also attending the 10:45 a.m. meeting were Sathap Sirikhan, San Anumothai, Surasak Chaowisit, Charat Phuachuai, Rewat Siriroek, Chaweng Vongyai, Somthawin Wachirarattanasak, Mana Phaesakun, Chaloen Benhawan, Kuson Mithet, Prasong Phokhaphon, Ruangwit Lik, Thoetphan Phetsuwan, Chongchai Thiangthan Pol Lt-Col Bunloet Loetpricha, Saman Chomphuthep, Thun Chintawet, Sayom Ramasut, Charoen Chaoprayun, Mrs Siriphan Churimat, Pracha Bunyanet, Phinit Chantarasurin, Suphasit Techatanon, Rewat Sirinukun and Kamon Samoetuan.

It was noticed that those attending the meeting included Koson Krairoek and Charat Phuachuai who were reported to have joined the Kit Prachakhom Party of Bunchu Rotchanasathian and others who were said to have joined other parties.

Charat Phuachuai said today's meeting did not mean that all the attendants would join the same party.

The result of the meeting was not known at press time.

The Chat Thai Party will hold a meeting this afternoon to prepare for the July 27 general election.

Former Chat Thai MP for Saraburi Pongphon Adireksan said this morning that the meeting will look into the number of former MPs who had broken away and those who will represent the party in the election.

He said the exact number of the breakaway members was not known. So far they have been known to include 16 followers of Col Phon Roenkprasoetwit and 15 followers of former Ratburi MP Thawi Kraikhup and former Maha Sarakham MP Thawit Klinparthum.

"If this is correct, the party will have about 77 former MPs left. I don't know how many others will leave or join our party," Pongphon said.

It was reported yesterday that former university affairs minister Prida Phatthanabut, who was dismissed from the Cabinet on the Social Action Party's request, would defect to the Chat Thai Party.

Former Ratburi MP Chaowarin Latthasaksiri said yesterday that the Chat Thai Party, led by Maj-Gen Praman Adireksan, will kick off its campaign in Surin Province on May 18.

Meanwhile, Col Phon will have a meeting with his followers this afternoon.

Democrat Party deputy leader Lt-Col Sanan Khachonprasat said yesterday that the party will reveal its candidates on May 21.

Deputy Prime Minister Prachuap Suntharangkun this morning said the general situation now seems to be favorable for democracy and he noticed that various political parties are now in the process of selecting candidates.

He declined to comment when asked if he thought Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon should run in the election.

"For myself, I can tell you now that I won't run," he said.

Regarding the National Radio and Television Broadcasting Control Board's decision to allow broadcasting of political campaigns, Gen Prachuap said the Public Relations Department (PRD) must first draw up regulations on this matter.

Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Chan Manutham, who is chairman of the sub-committee for radio and television broadcasting control, said yesterday that a meeting will be held next Wednesday to work out details of the regulations.

SAP Suffers More Defections

BK180219 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 May 86 pp 1, 3

[Text] Social Action Party (SAP) deputy leader Narong Wongwan will form and lead a new political party called Ruam Thai, with former Deputy House Speaker Piyanat Watcharaphon acting as secretary-general, informed sources said yesterday.

Another SAP deputy leader, Barom Tanthian, yesterday announced in Phangnga that he and five other SAP MPs have decided to join Democrat Party.

Mr Barom, a former Phangnga MP, said he will resign from his deputy agriculture minister's post because it belongs to the SAP quota in the coalition.

Sources said efforts to form the Ruam Thai Party began shortly after the parliamentary dissolution.

Mr Narong, who is agriculture minister and a former Phrae MP, had met former SiSaKet MP Sa-nga Watcharaphon, Piyanat's father.

Mr Piyanat earlier announced that he and his father had resigned from the Chat Thai Party.

The sources said SAP defectors likely to join the Ruam Thai Party are former Nakhon Phanom MP Wirawon Sitthitham, former Nan MP Wanlop Supriyasin, former Chiang Rai MP Dr Somsat Ratanasak, former Phrae MP Phon Watcharpricha and former Phetchabun MP Phaisan Chantharaphakdi.

Apart from Mr Sa-nga and Mr Piyanat, the Chat Thai Party defectors include former Sisaket MP Sathian Thamsuriya and former Chiang Rai MP Mongkhon Chongchuthamani.

The sources believed that former Rat Buri MP Thawi Kraikhup, former Chaiyaphum MP Santi Chaiwirat and former Lamphun MP Montri Danphaibun, all members of the Chat Thai Party, would also join the new party.

The sources added that Mr Piyanat was now lobbying more former Chat Thai MPs to join the new party.

Mr Barom said he decided to join the Democrat Party in order to bring together MPs from the South to enhance their bargaining power.

Mr Barom, a SAP co-founder, said he is the last co-founder and also a former MP to defect from the party. Since other co-founders have left the party, he said, he cannot be blamed for desertion.

Mr Barom, who is accompanying Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon on a visit to Phangnga, said SAP will not collapse as a result of the recent mass defections and may one day return to Parliament with a majority. About 44 former MPs still remain with SAP, the rest having joined other parties.

He described SAP leader ACM (Air Chief Marshal) Sitthi Sawetsila as a good and hard-working leader but said that it takes time for a man to become a good politician.

Mr Barom also said he wanted Gen Prem to run in the July 27 general election.

Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong, who is the Democrat Party's secretary-general, said that a party meeting will decide next Tuesday whether to accept Mr Barom.

NFP, Progressive Party, CAP Pacts

BK180231 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 May 86 p 2

[Text] The New Force Party (NFP) has agreed to avoid competition with the Progressive Party of House Speaker Uthai Phimchaichon in the upcoming general election. The party also regards the Community Action Party (CAP) headed by former Deputy Prime Minister Bunchu Rotchanasathian as a "more distant ally."

NFP leader Prasan Tangchai was referring to Uthai's proposal that the two parties join forces by fielding candidates in Bangkok under the banner of his party.

On reports that Bunchu is wooing the New Force Party, Prasan said that the two parties would stay independent, though they would still be allies.

"It's like two parallel lines which can never converge, but Bunchu and I are still close friends," Prasan said, referring to the future of the two parties.

Meanwhile, Progressive secretary general Bunkoet Hiranyakham declined to comment on Uthai's proposal to field Ruam Halang members in Bangkok. He only said that the group and the two parties shared similar platforms and that the Progressive Party is keeping in touch with the other two.

Prasan said the party had asked former National Housing Authority Governor Prasit Narongdet and Metropolitan Water Works Authority (MWWA) Governor Athit Urairat to run in the July 27 election under the party's banner.

Dr Athit however is expected to turn down the offer due to his obligations at the MWWA, according to Prasan.

Former secretary general of the National Democracy Party (NDP) Prayun Suraniwong and former Nong Khai MP Nitinai Nakhonthap had agreed to run in the election under the party's banner, he said.

New Force has also asked PM's Office Minister Chan Manutham, former Permanent Secretary for Defence Gen Chamnan Ninwiset, president of the Thai Lawyers' Association Kamnuan Chalopatham and Teachers' Council of Thailand Secretary General Charun Milin to be advisors to the party.

Prasan said that PM's Office Minister Krmon Thongthammachat would not contest in the polls due to financial and family problems but he would help the party formulate its platform.

The party leader also complained of difficulties raising funds to finance the plan to field about 200 candidates in the nationwide polls.

He estimated that the party would need at least 10 million baht to finance their election campaign.

Prasan said the party was not financially prepared for the election because it was called ahead of schedule.

But he said the party will certainly meet the legal requirement to field more than 170 candidates in the election.

The party, he said, will send about 200 candidates. He said that 18 former MPs elected in 1975 had been asked to run in the election under the party's banner.

He claimed that many ex-MPs had asked to join the party, but he declined to name them.

"We will recruit only qualified MPs," he said.

The party, he said, will not contest against leaders of political parties which have policies similar to the New Force platform. The party is aiming for about 40 seats in the House of Representatives in the election.

Prasan said that the party will put special emphasis on the Northeast where about 100 MPs will be elected to the House.

He refused to specify who the party will back as the next prime minister.

The party leader will run in Pattani along with Sanya Sonsaman, and deputy party leader and well-known singer Suthep Wongkhamhaeng will contest in Nakhon Ratchasima.

Ratsadon Party Chief Views Elections

BK190155 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 May 86 pp 4, 5

[By Nattaya Chetchotirot]

[Text] Whether the general public's assessment of the military as a whole is justified or distorted, the fact remains that their view of the military is generally negative.

This reason has prompted former Deputy Army Chief Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan, known as one of the key men who put down the September 9 coup attempt, to plunge into politics as leader of the newly-formed Ratsadon Party (People's Party).

"In the eyes of the general public, the image of military officers is rather negative. They are looked at with suspicion: that they have no respect for democratic rules, and tend to use force in ruining democracy by playing politics behind-the-scenes.

"This unfavourable image of the military, which is long-planted in the minds of the public, is a challenge for me to enter politics although I have never seriously thought about it while in service," said the party leader.

With a desire to change this image, promote democracy and to "respond to the desire of friends and people of Lop Buri Province," Gen Thianchai accepted and joined his close associate, Gen Mana Rattanakoset, who is the party's secretary-general.

In a nutshell, the Ratsadon Party wants to prove that military men can play politics by the rules of the game; but he has denied that his party is a "military party" and has declared that it will remain politically independent.

The makings of this party started about a year ago, with Gen Mana doing a lot of the leg work, although silently.

When work in setting up the party began, many saw the party as a "military party" because the catalysts in setting up the party were former, high-ranking military officers.

These former officers, who were influential in forming the party, tried to dispell the image that the party had been set up with the backing of the Army or had been set up to act as a base for senior military officers; therefore they chose the word "Ratsadon" (People) as the name of their party.

Although driven with the desire "to serve country and society and not for power," the prime-movers of the party were caught by surprise by the dissolution of Parliament; but they decided to forge ahead and run in the election to prove that they are a party of the people.

Gen Thianchai, known within military circles as a man who gets along with everyone, admits that many political parties had approached him to join them.

But he chose to lead the Ratsadon Party because he wanted to build a "new house." By doing this, he would have more opportunity to make a good party by learning the lessons of other parties.

"To stay in our own house is better than to stay in others' houses or in an abandoned house. By being in a new home we can be independent and can clearly show that our home is not for others.

"We intend to build up a good party," he said.

Asked which person—Gen Prem Tinsulanon or Gen Athit Kamlang-ek—the party would pick as the next prime minister, Gen Thianchai said it was not yet the time to give an answer.

"I would like to ask why the people's attention is only (focussed) on these two persons. Doesn't anybody else have the right to become prime minister?"

Unlike other new political parties which have expressed their intention to support a particular person for prime minister, the Ratsadon Party "is not set up to support any particular person but will play the game by the rules."

"We do not intend to support any particular person, no matter who he is. A person who is to assume premiership must be nominated by the Parliament President after sounding out the opinions of elected representatives.

"If no suitable person can be found from the elected representatives, the prime minister may come from the outside as before. Let's wait until that time, when we will show our stand."

Asked what he thought of vote-buying, the Ratsadon Party leader suggested that the people could accept the money offered as long as they used their own judgment at the polls.

"In fact, the case of Maj-Gen Chamlong (Simuang) serves as a good example that money cannot buy votes and indicates that the people have begun to have more understanding in democracy.

"I don't know whether the people in the provinces have the same understanding as the people in Bangkok. I can only hope that the forthcoming election will be clean."

Gen Thianchai admits that the city-wide election for governor won by Maj-Gen Chamlong provided the impetus, the encouragement, for him to run.

"As a Senator, I did not speak much. But from now on I will speak out on matters which will really benefit the people," he said.

Commenting on recent political developments, particularly the visit by officers of the Special Warfare Command led by Lt-Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong and other senior military officers to Gen Prem's residence, Gen Thianchai said he did not want the people to view this as a division within the military.

As far as Gen Thianchai is concerned, the visit coincided with the "present situation" prompting widespread rumours.

"I want others to be optimistic, because I am. I don't know how other people are thinking or what they are planning to do. I cannot force the others to think the same way as I do because there are so many people and many minds in the armed forces," said the party leader.

General Thianchai also does not consider Gen Athit's six-point, election guideline to the army and order to conduct [as printed] a survey on military personnel and their families, as surprising as "it has been done before."

The main intention of such an order is the desire to see military personnel exercise their rights, he said.

"When I was still in the army, I myself ordered the survey on home registrations because I wanted everybody to use his right.

"We should look at the move in a good way, so as to improve the political atmosphere. I don't think that there would be problems in this election, for at least we have the Army Chief (Gen Athit) who is a careful person. I don't think there would be any influence on the military's votes. We all hope that the election will be carried out with justice."

Gen Thianchai said he is not worried about the present political situation, but added that the situation depends on how much politicians observe the rules of the game and etiquette. "I don't know what would happen if they do not respect the rules and have no political etiquette," he said.

As far as coups d'etat are concerned, the Ratsadon Party leader said that Thais are no longer fearful of such events.

"I want to ask: What have we got from past coups? The September 9 coup attempt told us clearly that a coup is not a way of solving problems.

"If we are not satisfied with the government, we can choose to topple it through democratic channels without having to stage a coup such as the case on May 1.

"From our experiences of September 9 last year, we now know how much we are needed to help each other to protect our country. We can't just do anything we want to, or do anything simply for the interest of our group."

Gen Thianchai said if he is asked to explain the events of September 9 during his campaign, he would gladly do so, but he would not make comments that would be interpreted as contempt of court.

"I will fight to the end if I am attacked on this matter. I risked my life to solve the problems and if attacked I will certainly give explanations," Gen Thianchai said.

Gen Thianchai said one of the party's main policies is to try and solve the agricultural problems facing the country.

The party wants to make Thailand a "superpower in world food" and Gen Thianchai believes that the party's policy is different from others.

Being the world's sixth largest rice producer [words indistinct] should make the most use of this advantage, he said.

Moreover, the party has a policy to use a large number of unemployed graduates in social science as agricultural leaders to help farmers who have struggled to survive without bargaining power.

Speaking of his own chances of getting elected, the Ratsadon Party leader said he is confident of winning in Lop Buri Province, where his main rival is the former Commander of the Special Warfare Command, Lt-Gen Anek Bunyathi of Chat Thai Party.

His confidence lies in his "familiarity" with the people of Lop Buri for the past 32 years. "With my eyes closed, I can well see the conditions of the people and the areas. I don't need to examine the areas anymore, but will start campaigning right away this month," Gen Thianchai said.

Speaking of his past work in Lop Buri, Gen Thianchai said he made a lot of improvements on the Special Warfare Command which, before, was said to have lacked discipline and had a poor performance.

After he was in command, the unit was much improved and became a most capable combat unit. "Over ten thousand families of soldiers in Lop Buri know well who turned this unit into a famous one," he said.

Responding to statements that he lacked enough prestige to contest in Bangkok, Gen Thianchai said: "I know that at this point the people may believe that way. I don't believe that you must have prestige and run in Bangkok. We should not attach importance only to Bangkok. We should attach equal importance to all 73 provinces. I believe I have made the right choice because I know the people there (in Lop Buri) well."

Asked why he did not invite Gen Athit to join his party, Gen Thianchai said he did think about it, but "he (Gen Athit) has declared not to run in the election."

Gen Thianchai is now chairman of the executive board of the State Railway of Thailand. He is also a board member of the National Housing Authority and the National Sports Authority of Thailand. According to the law, a person cannot concurrently hold more than three positions in state enterprises.

Gen Thianchai is also a member of more than 30 official committees and this deprives him of time to spend with his party.

He admitted that most of his time goes to the many meetings, and is considering to solve this problem since he is also an executive board member of the Asia Bank. He said he felt much relieved at having a good friend like Gen Mana as the party's secretary-general.

To the people, Gen Thianchai said that although his party has just been founded, it would try to screen good candidates to serve the people. He also asked the people to exercise their right to elect good people to Parliament.

Politicians Urged to Present Views

BK160903 Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 15 May 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Political Ideology"]

[Text] The current political activities in Thailand have created doubts among the people about whether the politicians who are going to run in the 27 July general election have any political ideology or not.

Reports on politicians switching parties, political party changing names, and businessmen or retired government officials striving to join certain popular and stable political parties regardless their policies are now quite rife. The people do not know the precise ideology of the politicians who have volunteered to serve them in the legislative branch. What the people can see now are preparations for the upcoming general election which might be misinterpreted as competition for seats in the House of Representatives. One wonders how sincere these politicians are toward the people.

Although all we can see at present are preparations for the elections, it is necessary for all candidates to explain to the people their political ideology and how they will solve the problems of the country. The presentation of their views and political ideology will enable the people to know exactly who they should vote for. Opinions on how the country's problems should be solved vary from person to person; some prefer decisive and violent measures, while others support compromise.

Politics should serve only the power and interests of the majority, not any particular individual or group. Politicians who will run in the elections must be willing to serve the majority. They must make known their political ideology, because if all they do is think how to win the poll, they will have to use money to buy votes from the people.

Daily Analyzes Election Maneuvering

BK170517 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 May 86 p 4

["POST special report" by Soemsuk Kasithipradit]

[Text] With political parties responsible for instigating Parliament's dissolution still manoeuvring to form a united front, the tense stand-off within the army--which has hardened over a considerable period--took a new turn this week.

The visits by senior military officers to the Sisao Thewet residence of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon on Tuesday and Thursday, was more than just an orchestrated show of support.

First, 50 officers of the Lop Buri-based Special Warfare Command led by Lt-Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong visited the Premier. They were followed by officers of the Third Army Region (North). The visits, according to military sources, constitute a clear-cut show of strength.

At the same time, however, the cancellation by Army Chief of Staff Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut of his scheduled birthday party, clearly shows that Gen Chawalit wants to avoid any chance of this stand-off turning into a public confrontation.

Since the dissolution of Parliament on May 1, political manoeuvring has made the situation within the army, according to military sources, "a tense stand-off" between Army Chief and Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek and his supporters on the one hand, and Gen Prem and Gen Chawalit, on the other.

Military sources close to Gen Chawalit make no secret of the fact that at present, supporters of both sides are keeping a close watch on one another.

The hardening of positions within the military gained momentum in late March when Gen Prem announced that Gen Athit's term as army chief would not be extended for a second year.

Although he publicly accepted this decision "by his superior," Gen Athit's alleged involvement in the move to defeat the government-proposed bill in the opening session of Parliament, is reportedly seen by Gen Chawalit's supporters as evidence of the army chief's "true intentions."

The magazine NAM THANG, backed by supporters of Gen Athit, have made this parting of ways clear in reports, saying that relations between the two are far from smooth; in fact they had reached a serious point, the reports said.

But it was Gen Athit's alleged involvement with the Chat Thai Party and others in defeating the government bill, that gave further impetus to the hardening of positions.

Members of Parliament supporting Gen Athit have admitted that a close aide of the Supreme Commander, a colonel, was involved in "coordinating," along with two other key MPs, the heavy lobbying which defeated Chamanan's National Democratic Party admitted, however: "If Gen Athit did not jump into the political fray, the game would not be played as hard as it now is."

Sources close to Gen Chawalit admit that the army chief-of-staff miscalculated the move against the bill and was not prepared to counter such a move.

In particular, the government failed to truly assess the position of Col Phon Roengprasoetwit, a Prem loyalist whose 15 MPs within Chat Thai had backed the premier before in the Opposition's no-confidence motions.

Three days before the bill was to enter Parliament, Gen Chawalit was asked if he, a close adviser to the premier, was confident of the bill's passage.

Gen Chawalit replied that he foresaw no problem and added that "Col Phon is with us." For this reason, the sources said, there was no counter-lobbying on the government side until it was too late.

This time, because of heavy lobbying and the alleged involvement of Gen Athit, Col Phon's group voted against the government, the sources added.

[Word indistinct] that the main reason the bill was defeated was because "MPs were bought."

Unconfirmed reports say that 100,000 baht [word indistinct] to MPs against the bill and 50,000 baht for an abstention. Gen Athit has denied any involvement in the alleged vote-buying.

While the government failed to accurately assess this move in Parliament, the Opposition and Gen Athit's supporters, at the same time, failed to accurately assess Gen Prem's response.

"They were led to believe that Gen Prem would resign," the sources said. Now that Parliament is dissolved and a general election scheduled, their main intention is to form a united political front to block the Democrats from becoming the core of a new coalition government headed by Gen Prem, these military sources said.

The sources said that there was considerable dissatisfaction by Gen Athit's decision on Monday to issue a six-point instruction to the military to be "neutral" during the general election.

This sort of action has "never been done before," the sources said, adding that one crucial point showing vested interest in the political outcome of the election, is the order--confirmed by the army yesterday--that a list of eligible army voters and their families be drawn up.

With news of the formation of the united political front dominating headlines, Gen Prem's supporters decided to act with a "show of support" by Lt-Gen Sunthon, a close friend of Gen Chawalit and ardent supporter of Gen Prem, and the Third Army Region officers.

This is not the first time Lt-Gen Sunthon has made this type of gesture.

During the extension period when Gen Athit was holding his "Sunset Restaurant" meals with army officials from various classes--also as a "show of support"--the commander of the Special Warfare Command appeared at the Premier's doorstep.

Gen Chawalit's supporters told the POST: "We all know what the political situation is like at the moment? and they admitted that show of support by Lt-Gen Sunthon and the Third Army Region officers may cause dissatisfaction among some groups in the army.

"But this had to be done to show how we stand," these supporters said, adding that the situation "is now one of a tense stand-off."

Close aides to Gen Chawalit added that the army chief-of-staff is unhappy with the present mood and state of affairs within the army.

The cancellation of the birthday party was a clear example of his desire to avoid, if possible, any opportunity for the stand-off to become a confrontation.

Food had already been ordered for the party: owners of noodle and other food stalls had been given down payments to set up shop on that day, the aides said.

They added that Lt-Gen Sunthon planned to bring a big group of Lop Buri soldiers to wish "the new army chief happy birthday" but Gen Chawalit asked him to refrain from doing so. Thus, the men visited Gen Prem instead, the aides said.

They also said that this was not the first time Gen Chawalit has tried to avoid trouble spots.

Sources told the POST that when the extension of Gen Athit's term became a public issue earlier this year, Gen Prem had wanted to make his intentions known earlier than he did. Sources said it was Gen Chawalit who asked the premier to put the decision off for as long as possible.

Only after Gen Chuthai Saengthawip, a classmate of Gen Athit, came out with what was considered strong statements, did Gen Prem act by announcing his decision on television.

With the present stand-off, military sources agree that a clearer picture of what the outcome of the election is likely to be, may be seen between June 9 and 13, when the political parties formally announce their candidates.

"Once the lists are announced we can tell who is for Gen Prem, who is for Gen Athit and who can be bought," the military sources said.

This initial picture will also decide how the political and military powerfuls will play the game until polling day.

Informed military sources claim that Gen Athit's supporters are expected to push for more public attention for the out-going army chief before the general election.

They claim that approaches have already been made with television channels 5 and 7 so that news of Gen Athit and his actions will be displayed prominently.

The sources said, however, that Gen Prem does have one other card which he could play before June 9: announcing his candidacy in the election.

The sources said that a military intelligence report of the current political situation has already been submitted to Gen Prem. Included in this report is a suggestion that the Premier run in the election, sources said.

Gen Prem expressed concern at this suggestion, saying that by deciding to run, he would be seen as "taking sides." The Premier was advised that if the current political situation looked as if those opposing him stood a good chance of setting up the next government, he would have to make this choice, sources said, adding that the Premier has left the matter open.

If Gen Prem decides to run, it is likely that he will cast his ballot with the Democrats because of his close ties with the party through a long-time friend Deputy Interior Minister Wira Musikaphong.

The military sources admitted that there are parts of the military that hold strong conflicts with the Democrats, who have high hopes of boosting their campaign with Gen Prem on their side.

These sources said, however, that a number of military opponents of the Democrats lie in Gen Athit's camp.

"Although a number in the military do not get along with the Democrats, the fact is the Democrats support Gen Chawalit and Gen Prem. And the thinking within some military circles is that if the Democrats are able to become the core of a new government, [word indistinct] Gen Chawalit will be army chief for sure," the sources said.

Another argument among military supporters of Gen Prem in running in the election is that if both political camps cannot form a core and a coalition of more parties results, the two likely candidates for the premiership would be Gen Athit and Gen Prem.

If Gen Prem is an elected MP, then this would be a strong argument for him to resume the premiership, the military sources added.

With both sides aware of each other's movements and both having military men, sources said there is little chance of a successful military coup d'etat.

"There has never been a successful coup when the army is divided. But if the army is unified... one 'yes' and the thing will flow," the sources said.

"Careful consideration would have to be made and the only result of an attempted coup at this stage," they added, "would be a very bloody ending."

Poll: 60 Percent Want New Government

BK181006 Bangkok SIAM RAT SAPDA WICHAN in Thai 18 May 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Party Name and Qualification of Candidate"]

[Text] Secretary general of the National Statistics Office Niyom Burakham disclosed recently that his office plans to conduct surveys concerning the 27 July general election. The first survey will be conducted about 1 month before the election date to see how well people understand the election, while the second survey will try to predict the percentage of election turnout and party popularity among voters.

Niyom also revealed that a survey by random sampling in Bangkok, Samut Prakan, Nonthaburi, and Pathum Thani about parliament dissolution showed that 82 percent of the people knew that parliament had been dissolved, 17 percent did not know, while the other 1 percent refused to comment. Sixty percent agreed with the dissolution, 17 percent disagreed, and the remainder would not comment. Most of those who agreed with dissolution wanted a new government or a change of government.

Dissolution of parliament is a normal occurrence in a country governed by a parliamentary system. In other words, results of the election can be regarded as a manifestation of the people's will in selecting their government. But in a country where the political party system is unstable and elections cannot

be regarded as a true measurement of the people's will, dissolution of parliament is nothing more than just a political change along the line of the Constitution, and it does not constitute the providing of opportunity for people to settle the original cause of the problem or to choose a government of their choice.

We say this because in the 1983 election, the coalition of parties whose combined strength had the majority in the parliament had to invite General Prem--an outsider--to become prime minister because they could not agree among themselves which party leader could be prime minister.

For this reason, the National Statistics Office's survey--which showed that 60 percent of the people agreed with parliament dissolution because they wanted a new government--serves to confirm that the government of Gen Prem did not meet the wish of the voters who voted for the coalition parties and that the government failed to effectively tackle the economic problems affecting the people.

Poll respondents did not take into consideration the real cause of dissolution, they just wanted a change of government.

We agree that party voting electoral system will [allow] people to choose a government they wish. But the political party system here is still unstable and the electoral system is still not perfect enough to regard its result as manifestation of people's political will, we feel that a candidate's qualifications--knowledge, behavior and his other background--are still necessary for voters to use in making their judgment. If people are thorough in selecting their candidates, the political and parliamentary systems will have a better chance for stability.

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CSO: 4200/1040

PRO-, ANTI-PREM FORCES MEET ON ELECTION

Special Warfare Officers Support Prem

BK130748 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 13 May 86 p 1

[Text] Fifty senior army officers, mainly from the Lop Buri-based special warfare centre, this morning went to the Si Sao Thewet house of Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon in a show of moral support for the beleaguered caretaker Prime Minister.

The show of strength came amidst reports of manoeuvring in the aftermath of the dissolution of Parliament and in preparation for the general election on July 27.

The 50 officers who were mostly at the commander level were led by commander of the Special Warfare Centre Lt-Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong. They initially gathered in front of the Army Club then walked into the premier's house at about 8 a.m.

They met General Prem for about 20 minutes before returning to their barracks.

Observers noted that the military displayed a similar show of support after the then opposition Chat Thai Party staged a mock debate in which they strongly criticized the prime minister.

The report said General Prem thanked the officers as well as telling them that the military is a very important institution that needs to have a very strict discipline.

They should be neutral and do only the right thing as well as acting as a pillar of the country and democracy, he said.

Among the army officers at General Prem's residence were Deputy Commanders of the Special Warfare Centre Maj-Gen Sanan Sawetserani and Maj-Gen Thanaphon Bunyopatsadam, Commander of the Second Special Warfare Division Maj-Gen Khachon Ramanwong, Commander of the Special Warfare Unit Maj-Gen Phayap Prachanthasen and Maj-Gen Sanyawit Sirimongkhon.

All the men are known to be close supporters of the man most likely to succeed General Athit as Army Commander in Chief, Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut.

General Chawalit has demonstrated support for General Prem on several occasions.

Army Commander and Supreme Commander General Athit Kamlang-ek recently appointed Col Manot Buachum deputy commander of the Sixth Division while Col Watthanachai Chainuangwong was appointed commander of the key Bangkok-based First Cavalry Regiment.

Sources close to the military said that there is likely to be another meeting of military officers close to General Prem on Thursday when a party will be held for the birthday of General Chawalit.

Third Army Officers Call on Prem

BK160224 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 May 86 p 1

[Text] Officers from the North-based Third Army called on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon at his Sisao Thewet residence yesterday.

The gesture, seen as a show of support and as a political deterrent, will be repeated by a group of officers from the Sara Buri-based Cavalry Centre in the next few days.

On Tuesday, Lt-Gen Sunthon Khongsomphong led 70 officers from the Lop Buri-based Special Warfare Force in a show of support for Gen Prem.

The 50-strong Third Army group was led by deputy commanders Maj-Gen Chaichana Tharichat, Maj-Gen Aphithet Intharaphichak and Maj-Gen Siri Thiwaphan.

Maj-Gen Chaichana was a cavalry officer who once served under Gen Prem. Many members of the group are battalion and regimental commanders.

The group arrived at the premier's residence at about 5:30 p.m. and stayed for about half an hour. After chatting with them for a while, Gen Prem gave copies of his biography, "From South to Northeast," to each officer.

Maj-Gen Chaichana described the visit as "ordinary" and said it was not a show of force. He said Supreme Commander and Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Athit Kamlang-ek should not be upset by the visit.

The group, he said, came to Bangkok to celebrate the birthday of Army Chief-of-Staff Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut. Since the party had been cancelled, the group came to see Gen Prem.

Maj-Gen Chaichana then said that he was a platoon leader under Gen Prem.

"We come to give him moral support," Maj-Gen Chaichana said, adding that he had not met the premier since the parliamentary dissolution.

Describing Gen Prem as a good man, he said the prime minister deserved support from the rank and file. He said the discussions did not touch on the July 27 elections.

Commenting on political tension, Maj-Gen Chaichana said the tension should not lead to serious incidents.

Generals-Turned-Politicians Visit

BK160244 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] Leader of the Ratsadon (Citizen) Party Gen Thianchai Sirisanphan called on Premier Prem Tinsulanon at the Government House yesterday to be given a "blessing" for the founding of the political party.

Thianchai, who was accompanied by Gen Mana Rattankoset, the secretary general of the party, later told reporters that they briefed the premier on the formation of the party and its policy.

But Thianchai said he did not ask Prem to run in the election. "It is up to his own judgment whether to run in the election. We should not bother him with the question," he added.

Thianchai, who is former deputy army chief, said the premier made no hints whatsoever on whether he was interested in competing in the poll.

He said he told Prem that the Ratsadon Party professes a neutral and independent stand and supports the principle that the next prime minister should be an MP.

"Our stand is that we will not cling to any particular individual," he added.

Thianchai said that the meeting with Prem lasted about 15 minutes. He also indicated that it was Prem who initiated yesterday's meeting which triggered off wild speculations on Prem's stand on the general election.

"We just informed him of the formation of our party and he said it was good for retired soldiers to play politics through the democratic ways," Mana said.

Mana reaffirmed that the party did not intend to back any particular person as the next prime minister.

Asked whether he would invite Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek to join the party, Mana said that Gen Athit had declared that he would stay in military service until his retirement. "He has to take care of the stability of the nation because the present period is very crucial and it is the sacred responsibility of all soldiers to make contribution to the stability of the country," Gen Mana said.

Referring to his Citizen Party's relations with the Mass Party headed by former assistant police director general Pol Lt Gen Banthoeng Kampanatsaenyakon, Gen Mana said that both were graduates from the Pre-Army School Class Five and they agreed during a recent meeting at Gen Achit's residence that the two parties would avoid competition in certain constituencies.

Thianchai said he will make an election rally debut in Lopburi where he will run on May 23.

Asked about financial support for the Ratsadon Party, he said several businessmen have offered to make financial contributions but declined to name names.

Buntheng Urges Prem Not to Run

BK150555 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] United Democratic Party (UDP) leader Buntheng Thongsawat, warning Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanon to wash his hands of politics, said yesterday that former prime minister M.R. Khukrit Pramot and Supreme Commander Gen Athit Kamlang-ek are among potential candidates to succeed Gen Prem.

But he said that his party will consider supporting MPs as the "priority choice" and that if that was not possible, politicians would have to pick an "outsider" to take up the premiership. It was his party's firm stand to refrain backing Gen Prem as the next premier but that should not be interpreted that he will seek to block Gen Prem's return to power.

"Khun Prem is a nice man and I have nothing against him. The House show-down was a political way of life and it's all over," he said.

The former Lampang MP said that Prem should not run in the forthcoming general election because the people had become "bored" with the government and the resistance against the premier had grown over the past months.

"I am sincerely advising him. Khun Prem is like movie star Charuni Sukaawat who was the top star several years ago. At present, the people are fully fed up with the old star and what to see a new one," he said.

He said that Prem would have to join the Democratic Party if he was to stand in the election. "Khun Prem has the backing of the southern faction in the Democrat Party and what if more Democrats were elected from other regions than the South?" he said.

"Gen Prem should fade out of the scene rather than incurring a bad reputation in the last part of his career," he said.

He said there are many people who can succeed Gen Prem. They include former M.R. Khukrit and Gen Athit.

But he added that his party supported the principle of having an MP taking the reins of government.

Asked about Gen Athit's chance, Buntheng said that he was not top on the list of the prospective candidates. He added that it is now not necessary for Thailand to be ruled by a soldier "because there are many civilians who are qualified for the job."

Asked about himself, Buntheng said that he was not suitable for the post but then he added that if the majority of MPs wanted him to take up the premiership, he would have to accept the challenge.

He discredited speculations of a possible coup d'etat.

Meanwhile, UDP sources said that the lobbying between UDP and the Community Action Party (CAP) of former deputy Bunchu Rotchanasathian to win membership of about 40 SAP defectors was in full swing yesterday. The lobbying will be over today when the SAP defectors are required to give a definite answer on their future membership to UDP.

UDP founders, including leaders from the Siam Democratic Party and other splinter political groups, will meet today at the Miramar Hotel to announce the debut of the party.

A SAP defector said that Bunchu lobbied with them through former Petchabun MP Charat Phuachuai. He said that more than 10 SAP defectors will join Bunchu's party.

UDP Endorses Stand Against Prem

BK160232 Bangkok THE NATION in English 16 May 86 pp 1, 2

[Excerpts] A total of 114 former MPs and prominent figures have been confirmed members and candidates of the newly-formed United Democratic Party (UDP) headed by former deputy premier Buntheng Thongsawat who repeated yesterday that he will wage an "emperor's war" in the forthcoming general election.

Buntheng also said that former commerce minister Koson Krairoek had agreed to join the party as Prathuang Khamprakop, a former MP, declared in the UDP meeting yesterday that MP's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Sawat Khamprakop and his five followers will defect from the Social Action Party (SAP) to join the UDP very soon. Former Chat Thai MP Col Narong Kittikhachon, meanwhile, has managed to bring six former Prachakorn Thai MPs under the UDP banner.

More than 30 SAP defectors huddled at the Miramar Hotel in the morning before they moved to Col Phon's Bangkok residence for the first UDP meeting. Eighty four former MPs and group leaders attended the meeting in the evening.

The UDP meeting yesterday endorsed the appointment of former Commerce Minister Tamchai Khamphato as secretary general and appointed former Bangkok Mass Transit Authority (BMTA) director Mongkhon Simarot as general campaign manager for the UDP's contest in the July 27 general election.

Colonel Phon said that Thawit Klinprathum, Thawon Chaisuwan, Bunloet Loetpricha and Narong Kittikhachon were made UDP deputy leaders.

Tamchai told THE NATION that he was overseas when the government dissolved Parliament on May 1 and was persuaded by Col Phon to join the UDP. "I will do my best as the housewife of the party," he said.

Mongkhon was appointed campaign manager because of his experiences in election campaigns.

Informed sources told THE NATION that former SAP MP Bunloet Loetpricha also declared in the UDP meeting that UDP stands against the return of Gen Prem to premiership after the election. The announcement apparently won endorsement from the meeting.

Kriangsak Urges Prem To Run

BK180226 Bangkok THE NATION in English 18 May 86 p 1

[Text] National Democracy Party [NDP] leader Gen Kriangsak Chamanan yesterday urged Prime Minister Gen Prem Tinsulanon to run for a parliamentary seat in the July 27 general election to test his popularity.

The former prime minister said Gen Prem should let the people voice their opinion on the performance of the government through the ballot box. "If people agree with the government's way of administering the country, they will certainly elect Gen Prem their representative. But should the public view the government's policies as incorrect, they will not allow him to be the new prime minister."

General Kriangsak, who is also a defendant in the September 9 coup case, said the NDP was selecting its candidates for the coming nationwide elections reveal their names late this month. [as printed]

When asked if he would run in the election on another party's ticket, Gen Kriangsak said: "It's difficult for me to defect to another party because I founded the NDP and time is limited."

General Kriangsak also dismissed as groundless news reports that nine former NDP MPs had resigned from the party, but said, "some of them may think of leaving the party." He added that he would compete in the polls in the northeastern province of Roi-et.

Advisory Board Against Prem Candidacy

BK170823 Bangkok MATICHON in Thai 17 May 86 p 16

[Text] According to a report from Government House, a meeting of the Prime Minister's Advisory Board on 15 May held another discussion on whether or not Prime Minister General Prem should run in the next election. The majority of board members felt that Gen Prem should not run in the election because it is possible that no party will win enough seats to be able to form a government and, because Gen Prem is neutral, he will be picked to lead a coalition government again. If Gen Prem runs as a democrat and the Democrat Party wins enough seats to form a government, Phichai Rattakun may not step aside for Gen Prem to lead the government. In sum, Gen Prem has a fifty-fifty chance--not a great chance--of becoming prime minister again regardless of whether or not he runs in the election. But, by not running in the election, he can avoid slanders about his private life that could damage his image as a statesman.

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CSO: 4200/1041

COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA

BRIEFS

SIHANOUK THANKS PRC FOR SUPPORT--To His Excellency Li Xiannian, president of the PRC: On behalf of the people, coalition government, and the tripartite armed forces of Democratic Kampuchea and in my own name, I would like to express to you and to the glorious PRC our deepest thanks for your powerful, noble, and unshakable support and assistance to our national liberation struggle and our 8-point proposal to settle the Cambodian problem peacefully. Your important letter dated 28 April 1986 has greatly encouraged us and constitutes a most satisfying act in the world. Please, excellency, accept my highest regards. [28 April message of thanks from DK President Norodom Sihanouk PRC President Li Xiannian] [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 8 May 86 BK] /12712

CGDK FORCES' ACTIONS IN BATTAMBANG--The ANS Supreme Command reports that on 8 May, combatants of the ANS forces launched a 4-pronged military operation in Battambang Province with the cooperation of the KPNLF forces. In the first prong, combatants from the 229th Battalion and the 21st Regiment attacked along the river from Norea monastery to Banak. The second prong consists of an ANS company near O Ta Ven village, Prek Khpop commune, Sangke District, Battambang Province. The third prong consists of combatants from the 23rd Regiment attacking a Vietnamese battalion near Ta Pon commune in Sangke District, Battambang Province. The fourth prong, consisting of combatants from the 23rd Regiment and soldiers from the 234th Battalion of the 23rd Regiment of the KPNLF forces, surrounded the Svay Sar garrison to prevent Vietnamese soldiers from rescuing their comrades. During this operation, a Vietnamese soldier was killed and another was wounded. The Cambodian nationalist forces suffered no losses. [Battle reports from various battlefields] [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 13 May 86 BK] /12712

SIHANOUKIST ARMY ACTIVITIES--According to a report by the ANS First Division's command, on 8 May, combatants from the intervention battalion of the ANS First Division attacked a Vietnamese position at Don Sva village, Puok District, Siem Reap Province, killing three Vietnamese soldiers. On the same day, another clash took place between the First Division's combatants and the Vietnamese soldiers at Beng Village, Sre Khvav commune, Srei Snam District, Siem Reap Province. During this clash, two Vietnamese soldiers were killed and four others were wounded. The ANS combatants suffered no losses. On 10 May, the combatants of the ANS First Division's 124th Battalion clashed

with a group of Vietnamese soldiers in the vicinity of Bat Trang village, Toek Cho commune, Preah Net Preah District, Battambang Province. After half an hour of fighting, the ANS combatants killed 2 Vietnamese soldiers and wounded 11 others. An ANS combatant was seriously wounded during the clash. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0500 GMT 12 May 86 BK] /12712

POISON KILLS THREE IN KOMPONG SPEU--On 28 April, the Vietnamese enemies in Prey Ches village, O commune, Phnum Sruoch District, Kompong Speu Province, sold medicine mixed with poison to our people. After taking this medicine, three inhabitants died after vomiting blood. Many others were seriously incapacitated due to this poison. We call on our people in Phnum Sruoch District of Kompong Speu Province and elsewhere throughout the country to be more careful and vigilant against the Vietnamese attempts to kill our people through all kinds of methods, especially through the use of poison. Before eating or taking medicine, food, water, vegetables, and cakes, you should first test it with animals to be sure that such food or medicine is not mixed with poison. The most effective measures to prevent yourself from being killed by the Vietnamese is for all of you to unite with our National Army in the struggle to drive all the Vietnamese enemies from your villages and our country. [Text] [(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 9 May 86 BK] /12712

18 SRV POSITIONS 'LIBERATED'--Pailin battlefield: Between 26 April and 6 May, our National Army swept and liberated 18 Vietnamese positions in the areas stretching from (Phali Phala), Khle Dach Kantuy, and (Phteah Chaol) hills to Thmar Da Thom. We killed or wounded 215 Vietnamese enemies and destroyed 90 assorted guns. We are continuing to sweep the Vietnamese enemies. [Battle report from various battlefields] [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 10 May 86 BK] /12712

VONADK CLAIMS SRV ATTACK ROUTED--North Battambang battlefield: Following our National Army's attack on Battambang town for the third time on 6 May earlier this rainy season, the Vietnamese enemy suffered severe losses, both in terms of fighting force and major strategic positions. On 11 May, the Vietnamese gathered two battalions of their troops in an attempt to resist and push us out from north Battambang town near Thmar Koul township. The Vietnamese divided their forces into two prongs: The first left from south of Phnum Thom, and the second from Thmar Koul. Soon after they left their positions, our National Army successfully ambushed and smashed these two prongs east of Nikon Sihanouk. We killed 55 Vietnamese enemy soldiers on the spot, including a battalion commander, 3 company commanders, and 5 platoon commanders, and wounded 77 others; destroyed a DK-82 gun, an 80-mm and a 60-mm mortar, 5 B-40's, a 12.7-mm gun, 7 RPD's, 35 AK's, 2 pistols, and some ammunition and war materiel; and seized 3 60-mm mortars, 4 B-40's, 6 RPD's, 25 AK's, 3 compasses, 3 maps, 2,600 rounds of AK ammunition, 26 60-mm mortar shells, 55 B-40 grenades, 91 bundles of goods, and some war materiel. The remaining soldiers fled back in panic; some more were killed or wounded by our National Army, Cambodian soldiers, and our people in the nearby areas. [Report from various battlefields] [Excerpts] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 15 May 86 BK] /12712

TOWNSHIP IN KAMPOT ATTACKED 7 MAY--Kompong Som battlefield: On 7 May, our National Army attacked Veal Rinh township and dismantled the Vietnamese administrative network in Samrong commune in Prey Nop District [Kampot Province]. The attack was launched on three prongs: the first on the Vietnamese platoon position defending the Veal Rinh township; the second on the Samrong commune office; and the third on the Vietnamese group defending the paddy mill. After a 30-minute battle, we were in complete control on the three prongs. We liberated the Veal Rinh township, a commune--Samrong--and five villages. Veal Rinh, Samrong Leu, Samrong Kraom, Samrong Kandal, and Boeng. We killed five and wounded seven Vietnamese enemy soldiers; destroyed some weapons and ammunition, six barracks, a commune office, a paddy mill, a tractor, two motorcycles, five bicycles, and some war materiel; and seized four weapons and some materiel. [Report from various battlefields] [Excerpt] [(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 13 May 86 BK] /12712

CSO: 4212/77

PRACHEACHON ON EMULATION AMONG WORKERS, EMPLOYEES

BK160945 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 14 May 86

[Undated PRACHEACHON editorial: "Continue To Vigorously Accelerate the Emulation Movement To Enhance the Sense of Creativeness and Thrift Among Workers and Employees"]

[Text] For the past several years under the correct and enlightened leadership of the KPRP, our army and people have overcome untold and countless difficulties, tests, and trials and won successes that grow with each passing day in all fields--political, military, economic, social, diplomatic, and in the use of revolutionary forces. The emulation movement to promote and enhance the sense of creativeness and thrift among workers and employees is part of the above-mentioned aggregate achievement, contributing importantly to the cause of national defense and reconstruction of our people. With the constant aid and care of the party and state, the fraternal workers and employees have enhanced their sense of mastery and responsibility, overcoming all difficulties in production, gradually improving management work, developing the tradition of hard work, industriousness, and courage, accelerating the development of a creative and thrifty movement and contributing to the steady growth of production. In fact, many factories, enterprises, and production units belonging to the industrial communications and educational services of various provinces and Phnom Penh, such as Battambang, Kompong Speu, Kandal, Kompong Cham, Kampot, and Kompong Som, have powerfully promoted production, improving the sense of creativity, management, and thrift, winning many remarkable achievements by inventing thousands of new products and accumulating for the state hundreds of millions of riel in profit.

New models have emerged from the emulation movement on the strength of their initiatives and ingenuity, such as the Don Teav plant in Battambang Province which is a collective model of workers and employees who have ingeniously improved management and intelligently improvised and increased the source of raw materials--in this case, jute--for production, by restoring and expanding jute planting in the locality, enlarging the jute area to 2,050 hectares in 1985, and by increasing the sack production from 46,000 sacks in 1980 to more than 2 million sacks in 1985, thus meeting the need for the use of local raw materials and saving a huge amount of foreign exchange for the state.

Many individuals have also brought their sense of creativity into full play by recycling existing materials, making use of local raw materials, and using techniques that would ensure the increase in labor yield, guarantee the quality of products, and bring the state millions of riel in profit.

Making commendations at a meeting summing up achievements of the emulation movement to promote the sense of creativity and thrift for 1979-1985, Comrade Hun Sen, Political Bureau member of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, emphasized that all these models reflected the workers' awareness of their sense of mastery and the great creative potentials of the workers and employees. If the authorities and trade unions know how to promote and encourage, this potential is certainly boundless. What has been achieved can affirm this. The Cambodian working class, though still small and young, as it was completely destroyed under the genocidal Pol Pot regime and has just been rescued and revived, thanks to the leadership of the KPRP and the immense assistance of the working classes and peoples of Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and other fraternal socialist countries, has displayed its revolutionary nature as the vanguard class representing progressive and scientific production through labor, industriousness, patience, courage, mastery, and a determination to do and to succeed with a high sense of scientific creativity.

Together with the above-mentioned success, the emulative movement among workers and employees certainly still experiences some weaknesses and shortcomings because its organization has been systematized by the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions only since 1985. Therefore, the emulative movement has not yet been able to maintain and regulate its vigorousness. Its creativity and the practice of thrift have not yet been linked to productive techniques nor have they been matched with technical norms, the norms governing the use of raw materials, the working norms in general, and the demand for production quality. Besides production yield, in some sectors, the use of machinery remains short of full capacity, the cost of many kinds of products remains high, work discipline in many regions remains weak, and the control of labor, equipment, implements, materials, means, and machinery remain shaky. There are still instances of waste in the use of budget and state property. The contents and meaning of emulation in general remains too generalized; it does not go deep enough into specific problems. The attention to collectives and individuals whose sense of creativeness and thrift is above average is wanting and the evaluation of creative achievements remains far from unified. The decision to compliment and reward achievements remains slow and untimely.

The socialist emulative movement is a lever prompting all revolutionary movements to advance toward greater successes for the revolutionary tasks and orientations. This year is the first year of the implementation of the fifth party congress resolutions, ushering in a new stage for the Cambodian revolution. All of us must be more active in stepping forward more firmly in the spirit that emulation means patriotism and patriotism means emulation. Based on the good experiences of the past movement of creativeness and thrift, all workers and employees must make all-out efforts to develop daily the determination to successfully implement all political, economic, social, and national defense tasks of the country. Each worker and employee must constantly enhance

the awareness of being the master and their sense of responsibility, developing the spirit of mastery and self-reliance and striving by all means to fulfill and overfulfill all tasks creativeness and thrift are necessarily linked to the techniques of production, ensure technicalities, and firmly carry out all the norms of production and management principles and overcome all phenomena of the lack of discipline in organization and management. All daily activities are aimed at: high yield, good quality, and cheap production price. It is imperative to always enhance the work efficiency and firmly respect labor discipline. Build up a new labor consciousness with high yield, oppose all untidy work and lack of responsibility, and gradually discard bureaucracy and unnecessary procedures. Let us always heighten the spirit of thrift regarding labor forces, duration of work, capital invested, and equipment and raw materials and observe thrift both in production and consumption while promoting the consciousness of taking good care of the state property.

It is necessary to pay attention to heightening the cultural, professional, and technical standards regarding economic management for workers and employees. In this sense, local enterprises must cooperate with the authorities by organizing complementary courses, cultural courses, technical and professional courses in the localities and exhorting the strong workers to help the weaker workers and the experienced workers to help train the new workers. At the same time, the trade unions must implement well the policies of promoting the family-run economy of the workers and employees to help improve the living standards of the latter.

Leading echelons at local, plant, and enterprise levels and at each ministry and office must create favorable conditions in all trade unions to promote and organize emulative movements to develop a creative and thrifty sense on the basis of specific and actual work and must create specific programs and emulation campaigns to be introduced in productive programs and the overall work program of localities. In this sense, it is imperative to seek out and publicize outstanding names in the emulation.

At the same time, it is imperative to expand the extent of the movement of emulation through the work of local and national trade unions, picking one or two exemplary local groups as models.

It is imperative to understand that emulation work is a joint responsibility of the authorities, trade unions, and youth unions under the leadership of the party at all levels. It is necessary to enhance close cooperation to create favorable conditions to support and encourage workers and employees to expand their creativeness and advance toward more and greater achievements. The Kampuchean federation of trade unions must gradually seek and publicize appropriate compliments and awards to encourage the steady development of emulative movement efforts. All workers and employees must pledge to strive and emulate in developing the sense of creativeness and thrift, creating new development impetus, joining with the whole people and army in successfully implementing the fifth party congress resolutions, bringing the cause of Cambodia's defense and reconstruction efforts toward success.

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CSO: 4212/78

MEDIA REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

Period of 5-11 May

BK120342 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media carried the following reports on agricultural developments in Cambodia during the reporting period 5-11 May:

Kandal Province: SPK in French at 1130 GMT on 5 May says that the people in Kandal Province plan to clear 1,300 hectares of land for cultivation. SPK in French at 1127 GMT on 7 May reports that in 1985 peasants in Kandal Province planted 47,000 hectares of rice and fishermen in this province caught 10,300 metric tons of fish.

Battambang Province: SPK in English at 1100 GMT on 9 May reports that in the last rainy season, the peasants in Mongkolborei District planted 23,628 hectares of rice and thousands of hectares of subsidiary food crops. SPK in French at 1153 GMT on 11 May reports that by the end of April, peasants in Mongkolborei District had harvested 60 hectares of rice planted since the beginning of the dry season. With the help of tractor operators, peasants tilled 1,000 hectares of land out of the 17,150 hectares planned for the coming rainy-season cropping. The district's agricultural service provided the peasants with 840 metric tons of chemical fertilizer, 1,400 liters of insecticide, and 500 kg of raticide. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 8 May reports that by the end of April, peasants in Mongkolborei District harvested 60 hectares of dry-season rice.

Kompong Cham Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 1300 GMT on 8 May reports that last rainy season, peasants in Kroch Chhma District planted more than 1,200 hectares of rice with yield of more than 1 metric ton per hectare. They also planted 1,800 hectares of tobacco. The radio at 0430 GMT on 7 May reports that in the first quarter of 1986, peasants in Memot District of Kompong Cham Province had sold more than 360 metric tons of paddy and gave more than 136 metric tons of paddy to the state as patriotic contributions. SPK in English at 1058 GMT on 9 May reports that in the just-ended dry season, peasants in Kompong Cham Province harvested 14,650 hectares of rice. They kept more than 353,860 oxen and buffalo and thousands of domestic fowls. Last year, despite unfavorable weather, the peasants in Kompong Cham planted monsoon rice on 121,890 hectares and covered 28,370 hectares with subsidiary food crops and thousands of hectares with vegetables and industrial crops. The province's forestry service for its part produced

7,130 cubic meters of timber while fishing groups caught 4,570 metric tons of fish. SPK in French at 1130 GMT on 5 May reports that by the end of March, peasants in Kompong Cham Province planted more than 4,660 hectares of secondary food crops and 6,070 hectares of industrial crops. Tractor operators also helped the peasants in Ponhea Krek and Tbong Khmum districts till 1,153 hectares of land by 20 April.

Kompong Thom Province: SPK in French at 1127 GMT on 7 May reports that last April, the peasants in Santuk District harvested 125 hectares of dry-season rice. By the end of April, tractor operators tilled 214 hectares of land for the peasants in this district. SPK in French at 1153 GMT on 11 May reports that by the end of March, the peasants in Baray District transplanted 212 hectares of dry-season rice. In the same period, they tilled more than 600 hectares of land for the coming rainy-season [words indistinct]. SPK in French at 0406 GMT on 11 May reports that during the first quarter of this year, the peasants in Sandan District had sold more than 100 metric tons of paddy to the state. The radio at 0430 GMT on 8 May reports that during the first quarter of this year, the trade service in Sandan District bought more than 100 metric tons of paddy and received nearly 70 metric tons of paddy as patriotic contributions from the peasants.

Pursat Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 2300 GMT on 9 May reports that by 18 April, the peasants in Pursat Province had sold almost 7,700 metric tons of paddy to the state.

Takeo Province: Phnom Penh Domestic Service at 0430 GMT on 6 May reports that during this year's dry season, the peasants in Treang District planted more than 2,700 hectares of rice. So far, 500 hectares of this rice were harvested with an average yield of more than 1 metric ton per hectare. The radio at 1300 GMT on 7 May reports that so far, the peasants in Kirivong District had harvested more than 1,700 hectares of dry-season rice and sold to the state 680 metric tons of paddy and gave 1,100 metric tons of paddy as patriotic contributions. The radio at 0430 GMT on 11 May reports that tractor operators in Takeo Province tilled 12,000 hectares of land for the peasants by 11 April. SPK in French at 0403 GMT on 10 May reports that by the end of April, the peasants in Takeo Province had harvested 13,000 hectares out of the 32,000 hectares of rice planted during this dry season with an average yield of more than 2 metric tons per hectare. They had also sold some 8,000 metric tons of paddy to the state. In the current rainy season, they plan to till 150,000 hectares of land. So far, tractor operators helped the peasants till 14,700 hectares of land. SPK in English at 1126 GMT on 11 May reports that Takeo Province's agricultural service has provided the peasants with 1,000 metric tons of floating-rice seed, 2,410 metric tons of chemical fertilizer, 229,001 liters of fuel, and 464 pumping machines. The province plans to grow this monsoon crops on 150,000 hectares, including 22,000 hectares of floating rice, 28,000 hectares of short-term rice, 27,000 hectares of long-term rice, and 13,000 hectares of IR-36 rice variety.

Svay Rieng Province: SPK in French at 1127 GMT on 7 May reports that by the end of April, the peasants in this province had harvested more than 300 hectares of dry-season rice. So far, the tractor operators have tilled more than 5,400 hectares for rainy-season rice planting.

12-18 May Period

BK190918 [Editorial Report] Cambodian media carried the following reports on agricultural developments in Cambodia during the reporting period 12-18 May:

National Level: Phnom Penh SPK in English at 1119 GMT on 12 May reports that in helping the peasants in their preparation for the monsoon rice cropping, the Ministry of Agriculture has provided farmers across the country with 3,238 metric tons of chemical fertilizer. The ministry will provide over 7,000 metric tons more. Moreover, it spared another volume of fertilizer for the exchange of 11,500 metric tons of the IR-36 rice seeds and floating rice varieties from the peasants. Up to now, it has already received 3,000 metric tons of seed rice. Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian at 0430 GMT on 15 May reports that between February and May, the Agriculture Ministry distributed more than 3,200 metric tons of chemical fertilizer out of the planned 11,100 metric tons to the peasants in exchange for more than 3,000 metric tons of paddy. It planned to exchange the 11,100 metric tons of fertilizer with 11,550 metric tons of paddy with the peasants. SPK in English at 1106 GMT on 15 May reports that by the end of April, solidarity fishing groups throughout the country netted about 40,000 metric tons of freshwater fish. Taking the lead were the city of Phnom Penh and Kandal and Kompong Cham Provinces with 7,393 metric tons, 12,734 metric tons, and 4,572 metric tons respectively. The groups in Koh Kong and Kampot Provinces caught 1,379 metric tons of sea fish. The Cambodian fishermen are now making great efforts to complete the 60,000 metric tons as planned for 1985-86 fishing season by the end of May.

Kandal Province: SPK in French at 1127 GMT on 18 May reports that by the beginning of May, peasants in Kaoh Thom District harvested 4,370 hectares of dry season rice out of the total 6,900 hectares planted. In the current rainy season, they plan to grow more than 7,000 hectares of various kinds of rice.

Battambang Province: The radio at 1300 GMT on 16 May reports that by the end of April, the peasants in Battambang Province had sowed nearly 200 hectares of floating rice and 600 hectares of the highland rice out of the 123,000 hectares planned for this rainy season. More than 18,000 hectares of land out of the 86,750 hectares of land had been plowed by tractors by early May. They are striving to grow rice and other food crops in order to fulfill the plan of 330,200 hectares. SPK in English at 1057 GMT on 15 May reports that by the end of April, peasants in Battambang Province had planted rice by direct sowing on 800 hectares for this monsoon season. To boost monsoon rice cropping and to achieve the target of 330,000 hectares under rice in this season, including 21,000 hectares of intensive rice farming, the provincial agricultural service has sent out teams of tractors to help the farmers prepare the land. By the first week of May, 18,000 out of 86,750 hectares to be mechanically tilled had been done.

Kompong Cham Province: The radio at 0430 GMT on 17 May reports that in the first quarter of 1986, the veterinary team in Kompong Siem District vaccinated nearly 3,000 oxen and buffalo against various diseases. SPK in English at 1128 GMT on 17 May reports that by the end of April, peasants in Memot District had sold the state more than 3,700 metric tons of their surplus rice.

Kompong Thom Province: The radio at 0430 GMT on 13 May reports that during the 1986 dry season, the peasants in Baray District planted more than 400 hectares of rice. SPK in English at 1104 GMT on 16 May reported that in the just-ended dry season, peasants in Kompong Thom Province put 1,050 hectares under rice of which 518 hectares have been reaped with an average yield of 2 metric tons per hectare. Moreover, they covered 1,480 hectares with subsidiary food crops and 1,288 hectares with vegetables and industrial crops. The peasants sold the state 1,800 hectares of their surplus rice.

Kompong Chhnang Province: The radio at 1300 GMT on 14 May reports that by 28 April the trade service in this province bought more than 2,700 metric tons of rice and received more than 1,600 metric tons of paddy as patriotic contributions from the peasants.

Pursat Province: The radio at 1300 GMT on 13 May reports that so far the provincial trade service had bought 11,000 metric tons of rice or 40 percent of the rice purchase plan from the peasants.

Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province: SPK in French at 1155 GMT on 15 May reports that the peasants in this province have started to grow rice on the 177,000 hectares of land earmarked for this rainy season. So far, they had tilled 2,430 hectares of land.

Takeo Province: SPK in French at 1127 GMT on 18 May reports that the peasants in Treang District plan to grow rice on 22,800 hectares of land this rainy season. The radio at 0430 GMT on 15 May reports that by 27 April, the trade service in Treang District had bought more than 620 metric tons of paddy from the peasants. The radio at 0430 GMT on 16 May reports that during the first quarter of 1986, the peasants in Takeo Province sold almost 6,500 metric tons of paddy to the state. They also gave the state more than 5,550 metric tons of paddy as national patriotic contributions. The radio at 0430 GMT on 17 May reports that by 22 April, tractor operators of Takeo Province tilled more than 2,400 hectares of land for the peasants in Kirivong District.

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CSO: 4212/78

EDITORIAL URGES RAINY SEASON RICE PRODUCTION

BK170356 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 15 May 86

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "Pledge To Successfully Carry Out Rainy-Season Production"]

[Text] This is the first year that we implement our party-state's first 5-year economic restoration and expansion plan. In the regions where there are transplanted dry-season rice crops, the peasants are collecting their yield and selling surplus rice to the state.

After welcoming our traditional new year and the day of victory over the U.S. imperialists on 17 April, our people throughout the country actively prepared for the new rainy-season rice production. The provincial agricultural services in various localities, such as Battambang, Prey Veng, Svay Rieng, and Kompong Thom Provinces, have mobilized hundreds of tractors to help the solidarity production groups till hundreds of hectares of crop land. By now, Svay Rieng Province has transplanted more than 5,000 hectares of rice. The peasants in many areas have actively repaired ditches and irrigation networks and prepared rice seeds and fertilizer for use in the coming transplanting season when there is sufficient water. There is now rainfall in some areas, but the amount of rain water is still scanty. However, in many areas our people do not depend only on rain water. The people in many areas have prepared their labor force, particularly draft animals, for tilling land on time in areas where there are water sources. After tilling, they usually transplant rice and grow corn and beans. It is imperative to use tractors for tilling land in the areas where there are plenty of arable fields before heavy rainfalls come. Regarding these areas, the provincial agricultural service and the solidarity production groups must pay attention to preparing fuel oil and tools and caring for the health of the tractor operators.

Besides land preparation, we must pay great attention to selecting seeds. It is imperative to encourage peasants to use high-yield rice seeds. Past experience shows that the people in the areas affected by floods or drought usually face a shortage of rice seeds and seeds for other food crops. For such cases, the district authorities should have a plan to assist the solidarity production groups by providing them with rice seeds and seedlings so that they can proceed with the transplanting on time.

Simultaneously with the preparation of land and seeds, we must stimulate the peasants to gradually build irrigation networks, thus creating an active and regular movement to build irrigation networks. First of all, we should mobilize them to build small irrigation networks, such as ditches, ponds, and wells for storing water, and to repair and use to the utmost all the existing irrigation networks, pumping stations, and mobile pumping stations. At the same time, it is imperative to urge the peasants to use primitive tools, such as scoops, scoop wheels, and waterwheels, for channeling water in or out of the fields during any unexpected drought or flooding when water pumps could not arrive on time or in case of shortage of fuel oil for the pumping machines.

In the past, our agricultural production depended on nature. We succeeded in our production only in years when the weather was favorable. In the past, floods or drought always affected our production. But the task of agriculture is to provide the entire society with food and foodstuffs for consumption, supply materials for export, and serve industry. To fulfill this task, it is imperative to seek every means to increase rice production through intensive cropping methods while expanding the cropping seasons and reclaiming more arable land. It is imperative to strive to transplant rice on the existing land. In the current rainy season, it is imperative to stimulate the peasants to grow more early rice crops. This matter is more important in mountainous areas, such as the northeastern provinces, because they have less arable land and more forested regions. Moreover, communications lines in these areas are inconvenient and the people there still face many difficulties. A great effort is required to promote rice production in these regions so that in the future they can solve food problems by themselves.

To carry out intensive cropping and increase the cropping seasons, in addition to using new high-yield rice seeds and building more irrigation networks, it is imperative to persuade the peasants to use fertilizer, particularly natural fertilizer, in order to increase rice yields. The current urgent need is to build more seed production centers for publicizing the use of new kinds of rice and other seeds. Chemical fertilizer and insecticide are also essential for intensive cropping and for protecting crops. Since we have to import chemical fertilizer and insecticide, we should actively collect natural fertilizer from the existing sources in our localities. In addition to rice, it is imperative to expand the production of corn, beans, potato, sesame, and other crops, particularly in the alluvial regions along the river banks, for feeding animals, for export, and to serve industry.

With the onset of this year's rainy-season production season, all authorities in charge of agriculture as well as all the party and local committees and authorities must increase their leadership in all aspects, from control measures to giving technical advice. They must help the localities to overcome all obstacles in all work in order to successfully carry out this rainy-season production, thus contributing to successfully implementing the first 5-year socioeconomic development plan set forth by the party's fifth congress.

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CSO: 4212/78

BRIEFS

KUFNCD DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GDR--At the invitation of the National Council of the GDR's National Unity Front, a delegation of the KUFNCD National Council headed by Comrade Ros Chhun, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee and secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council, left Phnom Penh at 0900 on 6 May for a visit to the GDR. During this visit, the delegation will also attend the 35th congress of the National Peasant Party of Bulgaria and the international conference on detente, peace, security, and cooperation in the world to be held in Sofia on 22 and 23 May. Seeing the delegation off at Pochentong Airport were Comrade Min Khin, deputy secretary general of the KUFNCD National Council, and cadres from the Front National Council. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 9 May 86 BK] /12712

COMBAT SUCCESS IN KOMPONG THOM--During the 1st quarter of 1986, militiamen in Santuk District of Kompong Thom Province, in close cooperation with the provincial armed forces, launched 16 sweep operations against the enemies. As a result, they killed 15 enemies, wounded 13 others, captured another, and seized an AK and a quantity of medicine and war materiel. On their part, the authorities and people in Santuk District persuaded 43 misled persons to return to the fold. These returnees brought seven weapons with them. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 13 May 86 BK] /12712

RETURNEES IN SIEM REAP--Thanks to great efforts by the proselytization committee, from February to March, 168 misled persons turned themselves in to the authorities in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, bringing along 76 weapons. [Summary] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 May 86 BK] /12712

OFFICIAL REVIEWS COMBAT ACTIVITIES--[Begin (Chua Chandeoun) recording] From 20 November 1985 to April 1986, the armed forces in our province achieved the following results during their operations against the enemies: They killed 57 enemies on the battlefield, wounded 43 others, captured 8 others--including 2 women--and seized 54 assorted weapons and a quantity of war materiel. Thanks to our combat activities, 17 enemies surrendered to our authorities, bringing along 8 weapons. [Interview with (Chua Chandeoun), chief of the Political Committee of Kompong Chhnang Province military command by unidentified station correspondent; date not given--recorded] [Excerpt] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 13 May 86 BK] /12712

THANKS GIVEN TO LAOS FOR GREETINGS--Comrade Hun Sen, minister of foreign affairs of the PRK, recently sent a message of thanks to Comrade Phoun Sipaseut, minister of foreign affairs of the LPDR. The message said: I sincerely thank you for your best wishes on my 35th birthday. As an authentic revolutionary, you have spared no efforts to serve the interest of the bonds of special friendship, militant solidarity, and all-round cooperation between Cambodia and Laos as well as Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, bonds which are developing and strengthening with each passing day. I wish you the best of health, happiness, and more successes. [Text] [Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 8 May 86 BK] /12712

CSO: 4212/78

SOVIET DELEGATE ADDRESSES WORLD YOUTH MEETING

OW151925 Hanoi VNA in English 1535 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA 15 May -- Ismailov Olimdjan, head of the Soviet delegation, voiced support for the initiatives of the Indochinese countries aimed at establishing a zone of peace and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

He was speaking at the international youth meeting on peace, security, cooperation and development in Asia and the Pacific held in Hanoi from May 11-13.

Ismailov Olimdjan, [name as received] who is also secretary of the Central Committee of the Lenin Komsomol of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, said among other things:

"Proceeding from the present situation in the Asian-Pacific region, the Soviet Union has put forward a concept of political approach to problems of peace and security, which takes into account the entire experience accumulated in various parts of the world in the struggle for easing tensions, for detente.

"The idea of comprehensive approach is that the countries of Asia-Pacific should work out measures aimed at ensuring stability and peace in the region. In the course of bilateral and multilateral consultations, premises will be created for carrying out an all-Asian forum for jointly searching for constructive solutions.

"This comprehensive approach organically involves such initiatives as Mongolia's proposal on the elaboration and signing of a convention on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force in the relations between the states of Asia and the Pacific; the proposal of the People's Democratic Republic of Korea on turning the Korean Peninsula into a zone free from nuclear weapons; the initiative of the three countries of Indochina aimed at establishing a zone of peace and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

"Serious attention should be given to the important idea of creating a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia put forward by the A.S.E.A.N. countries, and also the five principles of peaceful coexistence ("pancha shila") elaborated by Asian states and the ten principles of the

Bandung conference which could be taken as a basis by the participants in a broad dialogue on security...

"The Soviet Union has repeatedly called for trust-building measures in military and political fields. The reduction of activity of the naval fleets in the Pacific and Indian oceans would play a stabilizing role.

"Real steps aimed at detente in the region, strengthening confidence between the peoples of Asia and the Pacific Ocean, are the necessary premises for the settlement of these acute problems facing many countries in that part of the world, the struggle against economic backwardness, hunger, diseases."

On the young movement, the Soviet head delegate said the active participation of the broad masses in the countries of Asia and the Pacific in the struggle for peace and disarmament will help create a successful solution to problems in the region. The greater role of the young in the anti-war movement of the peoples in the region is a prominent feature in the life of the overwhelming majority of the states in the Asian continent.

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CSO: 4200/1034

YOUNG PIONEERS GREETED BY INTERNATIONAL GROUP

OW151818 Hanoi VNA in English 1503 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 15 -- The Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneers and Children's Brigade has received a message of greetings from the presidium of the International Committee for Adolescent and Children's Movement (C.I.M.E.A.) on the occasion of its 45th founding anniversary.

The message said:

"The founding and history of the Ho Chi Minh young pioneers and children's brigade has been closely linked with the glorious revolutionary tradition and the struggle of the Vietnamese people for national independence, freedom and socialism. Loyal to the ideal of President Ho Chi Minh and learning from his immortal example, the Ho Chi Minh young pioneers and children's brigade, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam, has made active contributions to overcoming the serious consequences of many years of aggressive war caused by imperialism, colonialism and neo-colonialism as well as by the political hostility of the imperialist and other reactionary forces, for building a new society.

"As a member of the C.I.M.E.A. presidium," the message pointed out, "the brigade has played an important role in implementing C.I.M.E.A.'s tasks of educating children in the spirit of peace and friendship and in struggling against imperialism and other reactionary forces, for peace, solidarity and the happiness of children.

"We once again express our militant solidarity with and firm support for the heroic people, youth and children of Vietnam in their national construction and defence as well as their tireless efforts for making Southeast Asia a zone of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation, thereby contributing to preserving peace in Asia and the rest of the world. [no closing quotation marks as received]

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CSO: 4200/1034

BRIEFS

SWISS MEDICAL CENTER AWARDED--Hanoi VNA May 19--The Vietnamese State Council has conferred the friendship order on the medical center of Switzerland and on Dr Marc Oltramare in recognition of their support and assistance to Vietnam over the past 20 years. The conferment was made on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the appeal made by this organization in support of the Vietnamese people's struggle. The presentation ceremony was held in Geneva by the Vietnamese Embassy and the permanent representation of Vietnam at the United Nations in Switzerland. Speaking on this occasion, Dr Marc Oltramare thanked the Vietnamese State Council for its high appreciation of the activities of the medical center of Switzerland and expressed his wishes to continue assisting the Vietnamese people in national reconstruction. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 19 May 86 OW] /6662

STUDENTS IN FRANCE HOLD CONGRESS--Hanoi VNA May 20--The union of Vietnamese youth, students and pupils in France held its 5th congress in Paris on May 17, in celebration of its 10th anniversary and the 21st anniversary of the union of Vietnamese students in France. More than 100 representatives of Vietnamese youth, students and pupils in Paris and from the cities of Montpellier, Toulouse, Marseille and Lyon attended the congress. Also present at the congress were Ha Van Lau, Vietnamese ambassador to France, Huynh Trung Dong, president of the Vietnamese Residents' Union in France, and representatives of Vietnamese students from Belgium and Switzerland. The participants heard a report on the union's activities over the past two years and a program of actions for the coming period. Taking the floor, Ambassador Ha Van Lau praised the union's efforts in uniting Vietnamese youth and students and asked them to try to follow the example of President Ho Chi Minh on the occasion of his 96th birthday. A 16-member executive committee was elected for 1986-88 with Nguyen Thi Giang Huong as president. In the evening, an artistic performance was held to mark the 96th birth anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh and to welcome the success of the congress. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0725 GMT 20 May 86 OW] /6662

IRAQI HIGHER EDUCATION GROUP--Hanoi VNA 15 May--A delegation of the Iraqi Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research led by Vice Minister Sabri Radiddawarud [names as received] has paid a week-long visit to Vietnam. During its stay the Iraqi delegation had working sessions with the Vietnamese Ministry of Secondary Vocational and Higher Education on Higher education and Post Graduation and Scientific Research. They agreed on cooperation between the two ministries. On May 10 Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Nguyen Giap received the Iraqi guests. The Iraqi delegation also visited the Vietnam Institute of Sciences, the Hanoi Polytechnic and other institutions in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1555 GMT 15 May 86 OW]

CA MAU-NAM CAN ROAD--Hanoi VNA 15 May--The last portion of the Cau Mau - Nam Can road running across Ngoc Hien district in the southern most province of Minh Hai has opened to traffic after three months work. This 60 km-road, heavily destroyed during the war, joins national highway 1a stretching from the northern border province of Lang Son through Hanoi, Hue and Ho Chi Minh city to Ca Mau and Nam Can. Reconstruction of the road was undertaken by the various districts in the province. The last stretch of 11 km entrusted to Ngoc Hien district included the building of 6 bridges totalling 200 metres and a ferry wharf, and the filling of 150 metres of canal. The work was completed on schedule with the removal of 200,000 cubic metres of soil and 10,000 cubic metres of sand, at a total cost of 30 million dong, of which 12 million was funded by the district. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1553 GMT 15 May 86 OW]

SOVIET PEACE INITIATIVES--Speaking at the 1986 session of the U.N. Disarmament Committee on 16 May, Ambassador Bui Xuan Nhut, acting head of the Vietnamese mission at the United Nations and Vietnamese chief delegate to the session, highly valued the efforts of the Soviet Union and of other socialist countries as well as of nonaligned countries to seek steps to avert the arms race and ease the world tension. The comrade strongly condemned the Star Wars program of the United States and its related proposals and held that the realities of the nuclear and peace era require that security must first be achieved through political measures and solutions. The so-called Strategic Defense Initiatives and the program for modernization of ground-based nuclear weapons are, in fact, aimed at gaining military superiority. The ambassador emphasized that in examining various aspects of the arms race and seeking ways to achieve disarmament, first of all, it is necessary to give priority to stopping the nuclear arms race into outer space and suspending all nuclear tests as suggested by the Soviet Union in order to advance toward completely discarding all nuclear weapons in the next 15 years. [Text] [Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 12 May 86 BK]

CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH LAOS--Hanoi VNA 15 May--A delegation of the cultural and information service of the Vietnam Central Province of Binh Tri Thien has paid a visit to its Lao twinned province of Savannakhet. The delegation had working sessions with Savannakhet's cultural and information officials. They reviewed their bilateral cooperation over the past years and worked out a plan of cooperation for the 1986-87 period. Also on this occasion, an art troupe from the ancient royal city of Hue visited the southern Lao province. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1502 GMT 15 May 86 OW]

PARIS MARKS HO'S BIRTH--Hanoi VNA 15 May--A get-together has been organized in Paris by the aged people association affiliated to the union of Vietnamese residents in France to mark the 96th birth anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh (May 19). It was attended by representatives of the Vietnamese Embassy in France, the Presidium of the Union and 200 old Vietnamese living in Paris. Mrs Than Van Con and Mr Nguyen Van Phuc, secretaries of the association, recalled President Ho Chi Minh's life and revolutionary activities the participants donated 14,910 francs to Vietnam's National Construction Fund. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1455 GMT 15 May 86 OW]

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CSO: 4209/529

CREATION OF SUGGESTION BOX FOR THE PARTY PLENUM

Ho Chi Minh SAIGON GIAI PHONG in English 2 Apr 86 p 1

[Text] Dear readers!

To prepare for the 6th nationwide Party Plenum, party organs at all levels throughout the country are about to hold their local congresses. In our city, in June 1986 the grassroots party organs will begin their congresses. To implement the Directive of the CPV Central Committee Secretariat, a criticism/self-criticism drive will be carried out by all party leading organs, cadres and members as a practical preparation for the congresses of these organs after that.

With the approval of the CPV Municipal Committee's Standing Committee, SAIGON GIAI PHONG has established a suggestion box to collect all the ideas which our readers and fellow citizens wish to contribute to the party on this occasion, on all subjects: the party's line, policies, guidance and direction, the character and conduct of party cadres and members, and particularly concerning the relationship between all party levels and the people, between party members and masses. SAIGON GIAI PHONG will publish a series on the options received and pass all of them (even those not published) on to the Municipal Committee's Standing Committee and to the organizing committees of all the party congresses in the city, to be studied, resolved or forwarded to higher authority.

We hope to receive from all of you many sincere and candid contributions motivated by a responsible, constructive spirit of party-building, to join with the municipal CPV organization in carrying out very well the words of Comrade Municipal Committee Secretary Nguyen Van Linh: This time, the party congresses at all levels must be congresses in which "The party trusts the people, and the people trust the party."

Send your letters to the Editorial Section, SAIGON GIAI PHONG. Outside the envelope write "Party Plenum Suggestion Box," you don't need to put a stamp on it.

2 April 1986
The Editors

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CSO: 4200/1023

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS READJUSTS CUU LONG DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

BK141117 Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 22 Apr 86 p 4

[Text] The Council of Ministers recently decided to readjust the administrative boundaries of Vinh Long city, Long Ho and Mang Thit districts, Cuu Long Province:

I. Vinh Long City, Long Ho District:

a. Separate An Binh, Binh Hoa Phuoc, Dong Phu, Thanh Duc, Tan Hanh villages (including An Hiep and half of Phuoc Binh hamlet), and Long Phuoc village (including Phuoc Hanh, Phuoc Nguon A, half Phuoc Loi A, and four fifths of Phuoc Loi B hamlet) of Long Ho district and combine them with areas of Vinh Long City.

b. Establish Phuoc Hau village of Vinh Long city which includes Phuoc Hanh, Phuoc Nguon A, half Phuoc Loi A, and four fifths of Phuoc Loi B hamlet in Long Phuoc village of Long Ho district which has just been combined with Vinh Long city.

The expanded administrative boundary of Vinh Long city is now composed of seven subwards namely the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, eighth, and ninth subwards; and eight villages namely An Binh, Binh Hoa Phuoc, Dong Phu, Phuoc Hau, Tan Ngai, Tan Hoa Bac, Thanh Duc, and Tan Hanh. The city's natural area is 13,876.40 hectares with a population of 155,801.

The boundary of Vinh Long city is adjacent to Long Ho district and Ben Tre province to the east; to Dong Thap province to the west; to Long Ho district to the south; and to Tien Giang province to the north.

Phuoc Hau village of Vinh Long city has a natural area of 911.99 hectares and a population of 6,774.

The boundary of Phuoc Hau is adjacent to Long Phuoc village of Long Ho district and the fourth subward to the east and the south respectively; to Tan Hanh village to the west; and to the third subward to the north.

Tan Hanh village of Vinh Long city has a natural area of 1,417.10 hectares and a population of 11,521.

The boundary of Tan Hanh village is adjacent to Phuoc Hau village and the eighth subward to the east; to Tan Hoa Bac village and Dong Thap province to the west; to Long Ho district to the south; and to Tan Ngai village to the ninth subward to the north.

Long Phuoc village of Long Ho district has a natural area of 1,360.67 hectares and a population of 11,932.

The boundary of Long Phuoc village is adjacent to Long My village to the east; to Vinh Long city to the west and the north; and to Loc Hoa and An Duc villages to the south.

c. Combine the remaining area of Tan Hanh village, that is an Hiep hamlet and half of Phuoc Binh hamlet, to Phu Quoi village, Long Ho district.

Phu Quoi village has a natural area of 2,953 hectares and a population of 16,179.

The boundary of Phu Quoi village is adjacent to Loc Hoa village to the east; to Dong Thap province to the west; to Dong Thap province and Vinh Long city to the north; and to Tam Binh district to the south.

II. Long Ho and Mang Thit Districts:

Combine Long Ho and Mang Thit into one district and name it Long Ho district.

Long Ho district is composed of 12 villages namely An Duc, An Phuoc, Chanh Hoi, Binh Phuoc, Nhon Phu, Loc Hoa, Long Phuoc, Long My, Hoa Tiny, My An, Tan Long Hoi, and Phu Quoi. It has a natural area of 26,117 hectares and a population of 142,537.

The boundary of Long Ho district is adjacent to the Tien Giang River and Vung Liem district to the east; to Dong Thap province to the west; to Tam Binh and Vung Liem districts to the south, and to Tien Giang river and Vinh Long city to the north.

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CSO: 4209/529

YOUNG PIONEERS' 45TH ANNIVERSARY MARKED

OW151931 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 15 May 86

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 15 -- The Vietnamese Children's Revolutionary Organization was founded on May 15, 1941 at Na Ma hamlet, Xuan Hoa village, Ha Quang district, in the northern border province of Cao Bang with the first five members headed by Kim Dong who later died a hero.

This organization was then a member of the Viet Minh league, and has since been growing unceasingly under the Communist Party of Vietnam's leadership.

In 1975 when the country was reunified, children in both parts of the country joined in the same organization under the new name: the Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneers' Brigade.

With the first five founding members 45 years ago, the young pioneers' brigade has now grown into an organization with nine million members. After 45 years of development under the party's leadership and the direct guidance of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, the Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneers' Brigade has become a communist organization of children, one of the successive organizations of the communists these organizations have been helping the party to train the young generations for the revolution.

Millions of members of the Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneers' Brigade and the Ho Chi Minh Children's Organization have won the titles "young Dien Bien Phu fighter" and "Uncle Ho's good nephew or niece" in the 1983-84 and 1984-85 school years. In the current 1985-86 school year, 5.4 million children have received the title "Uncle Ho's good nephew or niece," 364,000 have been admitted into the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union, and 98,400 groups of young pioneers have been recognized as "front rank groups."

The Ho Chi Minh Young Pioneers' Brigade was awarded the order of Ho Chi Minh by the party and the state on May 15, 1981 on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

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CSO: 4200/1034

GREATER PRODUCTION, BUSINESS AUTONOMY REQUESTED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4 Apr 86 p 2

[Article by Nguyen Duc: "Granting Production and Business Autonomy, Setting Prices and Consumption of Goods Produced in Excess of Obligations"; first paragraph is SAIGON GIAI PHONG introduction]

[Text] As SAIGON GIAI PHONG has reported, the class organized by the Municipal Agricultural Committee in coordination with the Central Agricultural Management School to study the new management mechanism has produced enthusiastic results. Representatives in the class--leading cadres of state-operated economic units in the agricultural-forestry-fishing sector--conducted heated discussions and contributed many ideas on the project to renew the management mechanism. We have recorded a number of opinions of the delegates dealing with this issue.

What Is Resolving the Problem From Its Source?

Cu Chi abolished all the control stations on thoroughfares in the district but "set up" inspection and supervision circles in the villages and hamlets to prevent agricultural products, especially agricultural products for export, from slipping from the local area, it is true. Why did the district have to carry out such an indecisive "inevitability?" I beg to submit that it was because of prices. At the very beginning of the season, the state stipulated the requisition and purchase price of peanuts from this crop at 14 dong per kilogram. In accordance with the overall price level, the requisition and purchase price of peanuts at that time was reasonable. Now however, the farmers of Cu Chi no longer wish to sell those peanuts produced in excess of obligated levels (taxes and two-way contracts) to the district at that price because other wards have come to buy the peanuts on the spot at a price of 20 dong. If carried over a stretch of road to a neighboring locality, the people can also sell at a higher price. Therefore, not wishing to violate the "price discipline" stipulated by the state, Cu Chi has no other way than to "block the rivers and forbid the markets" by replacing one administrative method with another. Despite this action, the district knows clearly that it will not stimulate production, to say nothing of the serious danger of losing public esteem.

Following the opinions presented by a representative from the Forestry Service and from Cu Chi District on the problem of control stations in Cu Chi, Nguyen Van Thuc, Deputy Director of Tan Binh State Farm in Duyen Hai, stated the circumstances of shrimp raisers in Duyen Hai: Our export shrimp are sold to the district at a price that is half that when sold to a corporation in the city.

If we do not agree to sell at that price, the shrimp are allowed to spoil; and if we carry them outside the district and are caught, it's tough. However, if we sell at that price, it is actually only enough for the state farm...with the unresolved problem of fulfilling the political mission but not those of business and reproduction to expand or develop the economy.

The local area meanwhile, with its monopolistic requisition and purchase superiority, simultaneously pressures prices and displays an overbearing attitude in all requisition and purchase procedures, illustrated most of all by the arbitrary evaluation of quality.

Not only Cu Chi and Duyen Hai but many other wards, districts and sectors in the city also have similar problems. Nearly all the representatives endorsed the method of resolving the problems above from their source as proposed: by granting production, business, price setting and production consumption autonomy to the basic level. Following that proposal, besides the primary assigned mission (materially proportioned by the state), based on available potential capabilities, basic level units have complete authority to organize composite business and production and to sign production, joint enterprise and association, and production consumption contracts with any economic organization if deemed effective. Regarding prices, the primary products materially proportioned by the state in accordance with prices or a stipulated price framework will, depending on the product type, the region and season, have the price or price framework established by the state on the basis of full consultation with production units. The portion of products in excess of planned levels will be requisitioned and purchased at a reasonable price or units with export authority will be allowed to achieve self-equilibrium in still scarce materials. In other products, production units have the authority to set and regulate prices, etc, with the agreement of the purchasing party.

What Effect Does Distribution and Circulation Have on Production?

A representative of the Nha Be Marine Products Raising Corporation stated that there are now five business units in Nha Be raising export shrimp. Replacing signed contracts in capital investment, supplies, materials, etc. for production units to repurchase products, they operate by raising prices, trade competition, etc. Touching on this problem, many representatives from the suburban basic level agricultural, forestry and marine products production units heatedly expressed themselves with many effective suggestions. A representative from Duyen Hai suggested that basic production units be permitted to take their products for direct participation in the market with sales directly to the consumer. He said, "Why can't we be allowed to deliver our own products to the inner city for direct sales to the consumer at a price cheaper than the commercial sales price? If every basic level production unit received such permission, would commerce be 'out of a job?' I can affirm that if the 'on the peak' method of trading continues as it is now, this procedure could and must occur--and we will eliminate one intermediate level. Conversely, if the trade sector wishes to survive, to develop and to control the business market, it must maintain close contact with the basic production units, provide mutual assistance and invest in production in order to control the goods from their source. After they have the goods, they must consign improvement for beauty and "taste,"

sell at a cheap price (due to low intermediate expenditures) and develop the maximum artistry...in deference to the customer. In this manner, what concern is there about anyone being able to compete?"

Another Reason for "Blocking the Rivers and Forbidding the Markets"

A representative from the 8th Precinct summarized the active establishment of budgets at the basic level: The establishment of many control stations by the local areas, although knowing it was negative step, was still maintained in an effort to acquire a source of income for supplementing the economic development budget which was meager while local construction requirements were great. For example, in the 8th Precinct, there were several bridges in serious disrepair, making travel extremely difficult. The precinct did not have sufficient funds to make the repairs itself. Because the city and central government considered it a small "branch" and "not very necessary," investment was not of the proper level, causing the repairs to be burdensome and prolonged with some work sites withdrawn leaving the project as it was before.

Representatives of corporations, enterprises and state farms suggested that the state redefine the profit payment norms for consistency; and representatives of agricultural cooperatives declared that the present level of agricultural taxes (8 to 15 percent) is high, and that the material norms for agricultural production and the comparison between the prices of agricultural products and industrial products are still inconsistent and still lack an effect of stimulating the development of agricultural production.

From a conference to study proposals for renewing the management mechanism that in reality has been obstructed for a long time, the representatives recognized a course for suitable relief and swiftly agreed with the report of the central government. The problem now--as many representatives express their desires--is when does the "green light" go on. The direction has been pointed out but one must go before a road is formed. When many go, the road becomes increasingly wider.

7300

CSO: 4209/503

GRAIN SHORTAGE PROMPTS PREMATURE ALLOWANCE REDUCTION

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 2 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed article: "No Decision To Change Grain Allowance; Locations That Have Cut or Reduced Grain Allowance for Cadres, Workers and Civil Servants During March 1986 Must Make Full Compensation"]

[Text] On 29 March, the Municipal People's Committee issued Official Letter 960 on the sale of rice in accordance with state allowances.

The wards, districts, sections and sectors recently reflected the situation of a number of central grain stores that have changed grain allowances in the grain ration coupons of cadres, workers and civil servants in the city.

The Municipal People's Committee has decided on the following solution:

Since the beginning of 1986, difficulties have been encountered in the city's grain receipts. The Municipal People's Committee has supervised the Municipal Grain Corporation in efforts to hold discussions with the provinces in order to receive and purchase grain to answer the requirements of the city. In cases where full grain allowances have not been sold during the month, the Grain Corporation will continue sales into the following month; where sufficient grain is available, the corporation will organize urgent sales in accordance with the allowances, selling the grain allowances for a particular month within that month.

The Municipal People's Committee has no decision on changing grain allowances. The Municipal Grain Corporation has the following guidance to ward and district central grain stores: any location that has recorded a change in the ration coupons of cadres, workers and civil servants will make corrections in accordance with the allowances. The state has stipulated that cuts made in allowances during March 1986 must be fully compensated.

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CSO: 4209/503

HEAVY RAIN CAUSES FLOODING TO RICE FIELDS

BK141021 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 12 May 86

[Text] Recently there were three spells of relatively heavy rain in the northern provinces and in the former 4th region. The average amount of rainfall in various provinces was 50-150 mm and up to 200 mm fell in certain areas. Heavy rain caused flooding and waterlogging to 7,259 hectares of rice and subsidiary food crops in Nghe Tinh. More than 2,000 hectares of rice, vegetables, and secondary food crops in Thanh Hoa have been submerged under flood waters. A number of rice areas in Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, Ha Son Binh, and Ha Bac provinces have also been flooded or waterlogged.

According to a forecast of the Meteorological and Hydrological General Department, in the next 10 days there will be more than averaging 50-100 mm. Therefore, localities must take active steps to conserve water in high-lying rice fields and drain flood waters from low-lying areas without allowing partial waterlogging to affect 5th-month spring rice.

As the 5th-month spring rice is in the process of growing ears, prolonged rain during this period of rice blooming will adversely affect rice output. In particular, prolonged rain and overcast conditions will create favorable conditions for those insects harmful to rice to develop more quickly and densely.

Of the nearly 200,000 hectares of 5th-month spring rice now being ravaged by insects, 50,000 hectares are in Ha Nam Ninh, 27,000 hectares in Thai Binh, and 26,000 hectares in Thanh Hoa. Nghe Tinh, Hai Hung, Ha Bac, Bac Thai, and Ha Son Binh provinces each have 10-20 hectares of rice which are now being ravaged by insects.

Faced with a shortage of insecticide, Ha Nam Ninh, Thai Binh, and Thanh Hoa provinces have resorted to many measures, including the use of mechanical means, against insects. They have prepared insecticide with locally available materials and the results are good.

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CSO: 4209/529

UNSTABLE PRICES ADVERSELY AFFECT CHILDREN'S DIETS

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4 Apr 86 p 3

[Article by M.I.: "Investment in People Is Invaluable"]

[Text] The unstable prices at the present time have and are creating many difficulties in the rearing of children. The quality of meals for children in a number of nurseries and kindergartens in the 4th Precinct, Phu Nhuan, etc. has declined by 30 to 50 percent. Most of the children are lacking in fats and protein and even their carbohydrates are insufficient.

According to a report of the Municipal Teenagers and Children Committee, the health of the children has declined to an alarming level: weight and height levels of basic general school pupils during the 2 years of 1984 and 1985 have shown a tendency to decline.

The concern and care for children at an early age is of decisive importance to their future development. Consequently, administrations at all levels, parents and basic production units in the local area must support and assist kindergartens, nurseries and basic level general day-care schools in ensuring that the diet of children has sufficient nutrition. We have set aside fixed expenses in plans and budgets at all echelons but in our opinion, a greater level of attention must be given to "gains and losses" in the future classes of socialist society. They are the long-term investment. We must calculate the immediate investment as well as that for the years to come, the many generations to come. If people are the most valuable asset, investment in people is invaluable.

7300

CSO: 4209/503

BRIEFS

BISHOPS COUNCIL MEETING--Hanoi VNA May 20--The Vietnamese Bishops Council met here from May 8-18 to review its activities and the Vietnamese catholics' contributions to national construction and defence over the past six years and work out a new program of actions for the time ahead. The meeting elected the new executive committee of the Bishops Council with Cardinal Trinh Van Can as president. On May 16, the Vietnamese Bishops Council called at the Central Committee of the Vietnam Fatherland Front (VFF). It was received by Huynh Tan Phat, president of the Presidium of the VFF Central Committee. Speaking at the reception, Cardinal Trinh Van Can, president of the council, expressed his gratitude to the state, the fatherland front and the local authorities for their assistance to Vietnamese catholics in fulfilling their obligations toward the churches and their motherland. He assured the front leader of his continued efforts to encourage the Vietnamese catholics to actively engage in national construction and defence, hence contributing to the struggle for world peace and the Vietnamese people's happiness. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 20 May 86 OW] /6662

CSO: 4200/1063

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